two thousand thirteen
Continuum

The cover picture is a photo print from the Library of Congress that was digitized. It was a nuclear weapons test, Operation Crossroads, at Bikini Atoll. Upon closer inspection one can see the ships around the mushroom cloud on the water.

DID YOU KNOW... *Did you Know...*

Summer

◢Summer Sports (6-9)
◢Summer (10-13)

Fall

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◢October (36-41)
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Winter

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Spring

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2013 Dragon Volume 66
6501 NW 62nd Avenue
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495 Sophomores
451 Juniors
413 Seniors
133 Staff

Bucket List

The term "bucket list" has a more intense meaning to me because of past and present situations in my life. When I was a freshman, my friend Casey Aschan-Cox, who was then a senior, passed away.

Like me, Casey had a form of muscular dystrophy and was in a wheelchair. If you knew Casey, you would know that she was an incredibly fearless and outgoing girl. However, there were a lot of things that Casey wanted to do in her life that she never got to, no matter how hard she tried.

For me, this was the most heart-breaking thing of it all. It also scared me ____less. I started to realize for the first time in my life that I could die before my friends without experiencing everything I had always planned to. And I didn't even try as hard as Casey. I decided that from that moment on, I would have to literally start living as if I would die the next day.

I sat down with my friend over Skype and made a bucket list of things I had to accomplish before I died. I would say that about 50% of them are not school appropriate, but a lot of them involve elevators. One involves food. Since then, I've worked hard on chipping away at the list. When I was a sophomore, I researched how to tattoo yourself, and after buying India Ink from Hobby Lobby and stealing a needle from my mom's sewing basket, my friends and I skipped advisory to give each other five little dots on each other's ankles. Other things have taken more time and planning, like riding a roller-coaster. By the time you are reading this, I hope this is something I will have accomplished. Hopefully I'll have checked off more things as well.

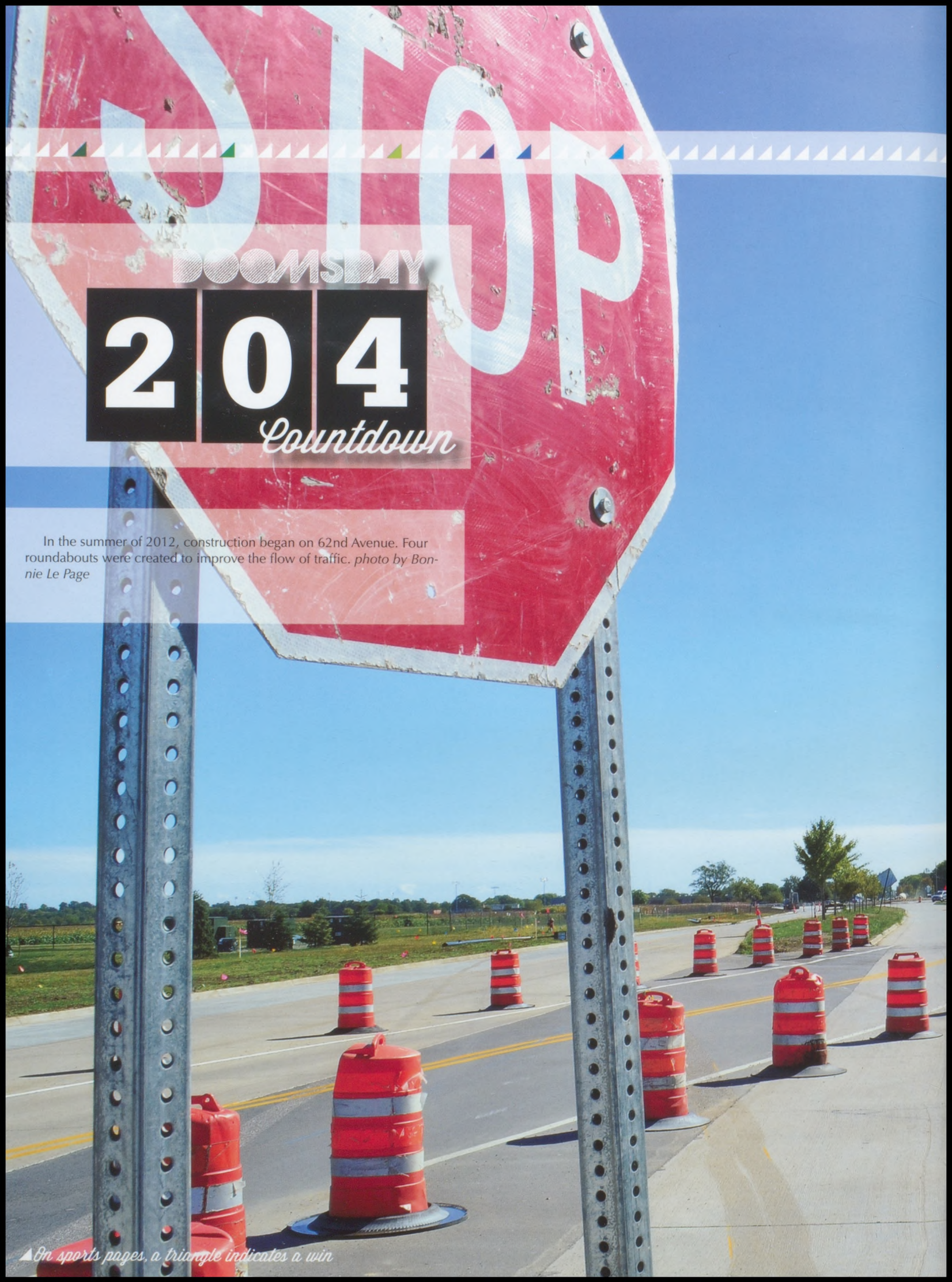
In the fall, I'm going to attend the University of Iowa. Obviously, I'm going to college for many reasons, but I like to think I'm accomplishing one of those things Casey never got to do. I see it as a new beginning, a segway to freedom. The urgency I felt after Casey passed away has since abided for the most part, which I'm thankful for as it probably would have gotten me into trouble if I had been under its spell for much longer. I still ask myself in times of strife, "What would Casey do?" which besides making me smile, helps to put things in perspective.

But if I constantly lived like I was going to die tomorrow, I'd go crazy. I've learned that life is a constant balancing act. A balancing act between the present and the past, the present and the future, this world and the next. It sounds melodramatic, but it's true. Obviously, I have no way of knowing how others view their life, but if I had to hazard a guess, I'd say that we're all a continuum of those that came before us. I've accepted this view, and if I hadn't, I don't know what I'd be living for.

When you believe that you are continuing where others have left off, your life suddenly takes on meaning. In some respects, my future is very shaky - the gradual weakening of my muscles is a constant reminder that I have no way of knowing what state my body will be in 10 years. But on the other hand, so is everyone's. And with that in mind, my future looks pretty darn good.

◢Written by Hannah Soyer

DOOMSDAY 204 Countdown



In the summer of 2012, construction began on 62nd Avenue. Four roundabouts were created to improve the flow of traffic. *photo by Bonnie Le Page*

▲On sports pages, a triangle indicates a win

Summer

June. The start of something new and the end of something old. Seniors took to Sandpiper, at Saylorville Lake, while incoming sophomores danced the night away at Pulse Night Club, and juniors travelled the world and the US, seeing places like Minnesota, India, and Norway. LeBron James led his team, the Miami Heat, to win their second NBA championship game against the Oklahoma City Thunder, 121-106 in Game 5. The heat spread even more as wild fires raged through New Mexico and Colorado.

July. Summer jobs broke the boredom. Corn was sold through Grimes Sweetcorn, life guarding took over, and nannying brought energy to our lives. Lines piled up as kids waited to see the premiere of "The Dark Knight Rises". However, in Denver, CO, a gunman dressed up as one of the characters opened fire and wounded 58 people and killed 12. As red, white, and blue fireworks burst in the sky, scientists ended the most expensive and longest search in science. A new subatomic particle was discovered holding the key to understanding life and diversity in the universe.

August. Hurricane Isacc hit Florida, and delayed the Republican National Convention. Juniors rode the hurricane and splashed around at Kocomo Cove at Adventureland Amusement Park, whilst sophomores started buying school supplies, and seniors went across the country from Texas to Illinois, to tour their future colleges.

East **8-10**, ◢*Marshalltown* **6-1/13-3**, *Waukee* **4-14**, ◢*Waterloo* **10-0**, *Lincoln* **5-7**, ◢*SE Polk* **4-1/7-3**, *Dowling* **3-4/1-3**, *Ankeny* **0-3/6-7**, ◢*Linn Marr* **10-0**, *Dowling Catholic* **5-8/4-3**, ◢*Roosevelt* **10-0/13-1**, ◢*SE Polk* **1-4/3-2**, ◢*North* **12-0**, ◢*Ankeny* **11-7/0-5**,

SOFTBALL

Junior Hannah Berger takes a deep breath as she grips her bat in both hands and walks to the batter's box. She takes a practice swing, and then gets into position, moving her weight to her back foot. The East team's pitcher proceeds to wind up her pitch, and release the highlighter-yellow ball towards Berger. Swinging her bat to the same motion as her hips, she hears the loud cling of the impact of the ball hitting the aluminum of her bat.

During the season, the softball team racked up the highest batting average in school history.

The coaches focused on batting technique. "We changed a few approaches, especially with two-strike hitting," coach Todd Merical said. "We had a lot of off season work between the lifting and conditioning, and we had kids that are really into softball."

The work translated into the second highest batting average in the CIML. "We spent half of the practice fielding and the other half hitting," junior Maren Bettis said. "We spent another 30 minutes before and after practice where girls could slap pitch." (Hitting for girls that are left handed)

The coaches put the girls through stations of drills every practice so that the players would become more comfortable and confident when game time came around. "We spent a lot of time batting," junior Ellen Espeland said.

The team premiered this new hitting mentality during its first game against East, the defending state champion. **"We were nervous because it was East,"** junior centerfielder Stanzy Snyder said. **"We always get nervous when we play them, but we always play better when we play better teams."**

Every season, the team plays East to open the season. Last year, they won the game 3-2. **"We had nothing to lose so we just gave it our all,"** Snyder said. " We played with a lot of communication, and we were really excited and pumped." Both teams batted well and the score was tied at the end of regulation. East's bats stayed hot in the extra innings, earning the win 8-10. East went on to place second in state.

The Dragons continued to bat well during the season. Three players batted over .400 for the season: .466, .415, and .409. Six other players had batting average of about .300 and above. **"We had a lot of returning players that knew what they were doing,"** Merical said. Graduate Sammie Hildreth and Abbey Wilmes made first team all-state, and graduate Katie Newberry made second team.

As the ball whistles through the air, the crowd around Berger becomes silent. The ball flies past second base and lands just outside the fence. "I just sprinted, I didn't realize that I had hit my first home run until I was at second,"Berger said. Berger added yet another home run to the season total.

GOAL: STRIKOUT 10 PEOPLE

"During our game against Dowling (Catholic) we were so close to winning. All the bases were loaded, we were tied and then we missed one run. We lost, but it was still a good game."

–Emma Monthei '13

GOAL: BE A BETTER HITTER

"I made my goal and what I did to improve it was doing drills and listening to coaches' feedback."

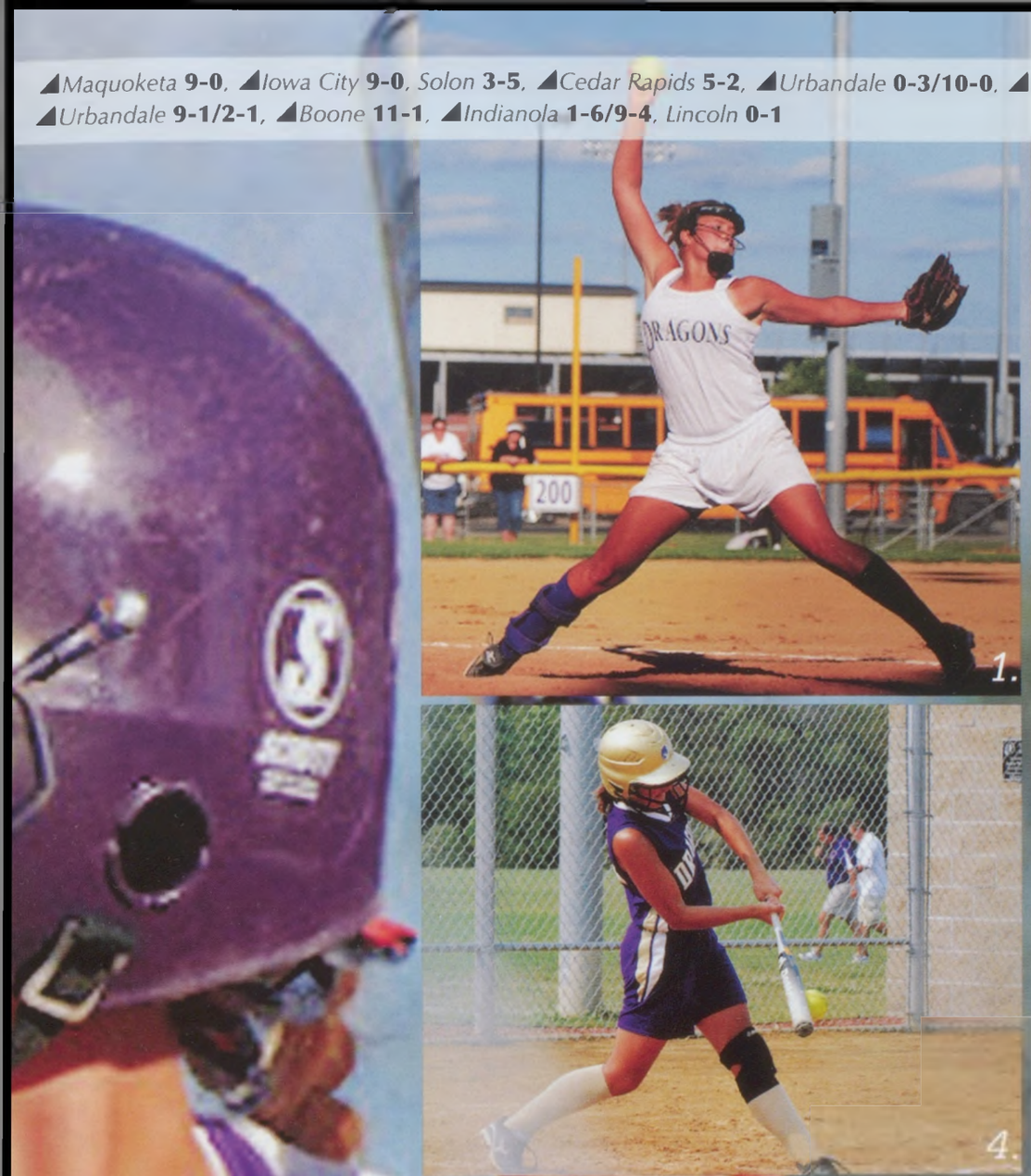
–Rachel Wallgasper '14

GOAL: MAKE IT TO STATE

"We utilized the time in practice and worked hard in the weight room. We wanted to be the best we could be at the end of the season. Unfortunatly, we lost to Lincoln the first round of the regonals."

–Bernadette Willis'13

◢*Maquoketa* **9-0**, ◢*Iowa City* **9-0**, *Solon* **3-5**, ◢*Cedar Rapids* **5-2**, ◢*Urbandale* **0-3/10-0**, ◢*Indianola* **3-2/7-6**, *Lincoln* **1-5**, ◢*Urbandale* **9-1/2-1**, ◢*Boone* **11-1**, ◢*Indianola* **1-6/9-4**, *Lincoln* **0-1**



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◢**Dominant**. *Senior Bailey Wilmes raises the bat to the proper position and takes a deep breath as she watches the pitcher wind up. Wilmes made up a portion of the team that had a hitting average and on base percentage over .400. photo provided by Linda Pender*

◢**1**. *Graduate Abbey Wilmes winds up her pitch for a SE Polk batter. Throughout the season, she pitched 133.1 innings in 21 games and 400 outs. . photo provided by Linda Pender*

◢**2**. *After a base hit, sophomore Addyson Pender tags her Urbandale opponent running from second base. "I knew I had to catch the ball and tag the girl out so they couldn't get a run, because that would start momentum for them," Pender said. photo provided by Linda Pender*

◢**3.** *Before entering the batter's box, junior Stanzy Snyder prepares herself a specific way. "I read the defense," Snyder said." Then I look at the same spot on my bat, take a deep breath, and then step in." photo provided by Linda Pender*

◢**4.** *Freshman Haylee Towers whacks at a ball, allowing her to make it to second base. Towers was the only freshman on the team. "I've learned so much from being on the team and being exposed to a higher level of competition," Towers said. photo provided by Linda Pender*

◢*Spread by Bailey Pierotti and Madison Boes*

◢*Ames* **8-1,** ◢*Des Moines East* **4-7/ 7-2,** ◢*Valley* **11-1,** ◢*Boone* **2-1,** ◢*Lewis Central* **6-1,** ◢*Marshalltown* **7-1/ 2-3/14-3,** ◢*Indianola* **12-2/4-7,** ◢*Dowling Catholic* **3-1/3-1,** ◢*SE Polk* **3-1/3-4,** ◢*Des Moines Lincoln* **3-1,** *Anke* **5-3/4-5,** ◢*Fort Dodge* **0-5/8-4,** *Sub State* ◢*Des Moines Lincoln* **12-0,** *Sub State* ◢*Urbandale* **5-2,** *Sub State Dowling*

The sun had just set, replacing the summer heat with a dark humid night. Instead of turning in and heading home, the baseball team, including the coaches, ventured out to the field and began a new version of a night game, beneath nothing but the light from the stars.

After losing balls during the previous games, the coaches planned on teaching the players a lesson. The idea was to turn off all the lights and have the players learn to catch the balls and communicate during games. Instead, it turned into a bonding opportunity for the players and the coaches.

"We had a completely new coaching staff and we implemented a new hitting style," head coach Michael Barta said.

The new coaches instituted a new way to play. The players trusted the coaches and their new ideas. **"We loved our coaches," senior Sam Shade said. "Best staff we have ever had. We didn't like them, we loved them."**

"It was like having another player," senior Conner Jacobsen said about the coaching staff.

The new hitting technique required the players and the coaching staff to rely on each other because players had to disregard previously learned knowledge.

"The coaching staff were all very experienced and knew what they were talking about and everything they could to improve us as athletes and people," junior Nick Stitzell said.

The hitting style consisted of taking the ball outside to the opposite field, as well as throwing it outside.

"The goal of the new hitting style is to hit the ball to left center or right center," junior Zach Brant said.

This technique had a rough start and the team couldn't get a hang of it, which led to many close games (lost by one or two runs). "We just couldn't hit the ball," senior Alex McCune said.

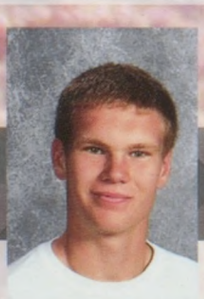
Halfway through the season the team finally began to hit.

However, there were missed opportunities. "The last two weeks we crushed the ball; a lot of the time we were one hit or one pitch away from going to state, but we couldn't come up with a hit," Barta said.

Although the team went 20-20, Barta said it easily could have gone 30-10. **"Varsity lost three-fourths of its games to the top five teams in the state," Barta said. "The seniors were the beginning."**

The players appreciated the coaches. "Our coaches always made sure that the energy level was high and no matter what, we had to have a positive attitude," Stitzel said.

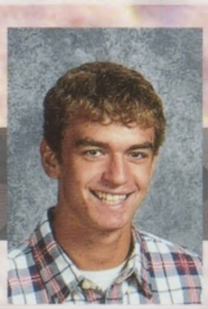
The night game helped the player-coach relationship. Players left with a new perception of baseball and a new team. "I think that two kids collided, but I don't think we missed a ball after that practice," Barta said.



GOAL: PLAY VARSITY

"I trained with my personal trainer for about six months straight with lifting weights. Every single practice we had before the season started I busted my tail to get the position."

-Drew Woods '14



GOAL: MAKE IT TO PRINCIPAL PARK

"We didn't accomplish it, we were one game away from going there and we practiced every day working on our weaknesses and building upon them to make it there."

-Trevor McCauley '13

GOAL: GO TO STATE

"I had a goal to make it to state. In the off-season me and my friends would go to the field and hit and throw to get better. Unfortunately we did not make it all the way there."

- Travis Brenner '13

11-1, ◢*Dallas Center-Grimes* **4-0,** ◢*SE Polk* **2-8/9-7,** *Ankeny* **2-11/1-2,** *Waukee* **2-3/4-6,** ◢*Urbandale* **0-5/2-5,** *Urbandale* **2-0/4-5,** ◢*Carlisle* **8-0,** *Indianola* **3-5/0-1,** *Dowling Catholic* **2-4/0-4,** ◢*Roosevelt Catholic* **5-6**

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◢**Dominant**. *Senior Joe Hawks watches the game against Dowling Catholic. Off-season training helped the team get better. "We lifted a lot, had morning throwing, which helped our arms get in shape and did some weighted ball workouts to help get us in shape as well," Hawks said. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**1.** *Winding up, senior Michael Kinning prepares to release the ball as he pitches. Kinning had a OPP BA of .268 and started in eight varsity games. photo By Bonnie Le Page*

◢**2.** *Graduate Jeff Pavelka sprints to first base at the home Fort Dodge game as junior Keegan Gormally extends his arm to catch the high throw. photo by Bailey Pierotti*

◢**3.** *Senior Conner Jacobsen raises his helmet to pump up his team for the away game against Dowling Catholic. "We had a lot of close games which made the season really interesting, and it was worth all the hard work when we finally played our best at the end of the season," Jacobsen said. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**4.** *Graduate Cody Brenner patiently awaits the pitch by junior Keegan Gormally, during the game against Fort Dodge. Brenner finished the season with a batting average of .311, and an on-base percentage of .47. After the season he played at Minnesota State University. photo by Bailey Pierotti*

◢Spread by Bailey Perotti

Kung Fruit Fighting

After playing Fruit Ninja on senior Sam Perington's Xbox Kinect, seniors Ethan DeGroot, Dalton Handel, and Ryan Harlow, and graduated senior Evan Culbert got an idea. They wondered what real-life fruit ninja would be like. They also really wanted to own a sword. Instead of just laughing off the thought, they tucked it away in their minds for later.

They entered the battle of summer boredom. Culbert and Handel knew of a store in Merle Hay Mall that sold swords, Four Treasures. "We had to be 18 to get it, so luckily we had Evan," Harlow said. The boys planned on haggling for the sword. They played rock paper scissors to see who would go in with Culbert so that the vendor didn't raise the price because they seemed desperate for it. DeGroot won, and went in to help pick out the sword. Once they bought the sword, all five of them pitched in around $14 to pay for it. They named it **"Kudomino Kiera,"** Japanese for fruit killer. **"We just thought every great sword has a name, like the sword that King Arthur had, Excalibur,"** Harlow said.

Senior Dalton Handel takes a swipe at a banana with a samurai sword. Handel succeeded in peeling it down the side. Handel also bought cantaloupe and watermelon to use for real-life fruit ninja, including a pineapple which he cut straight down the middle, leaves and all.
photo provided by Sam Perington

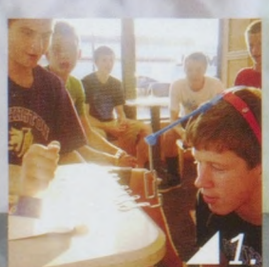
Next they had to get some fruit to be thrown. "We went to Dahl's on Merle Hay and asked to use their old fruit," Perington said. "They had literally just thrown it all away." They decided to just buy it. Everyone individually chose and bought the fruit they wanted to take a whack at.

After that, they all met up at the Culbert's and headed over to an empty cul-de-sac to begin their game. Sophomore Max Culbert tagged along to take pictures. They set down their bags of fruit and spread out a tarp on the dry grass. "We were pretty careful about it. We made a rule that only one person could be on the tarp," Harlow said. This rule made sense because they were in possession of a real sword, after all. (Eventually the sword blade was coming loose and they had to be extra careful). They also decided to share fruit.

Then, after all this preparation, the fun began. Starting with Evan, the boys took turns using the sword. **"One person would throw fruit and then other person would swipe at it however they could. It was quite a rush with all the fruit flying at your face,"** Handel said. After a few tries, they got the hang of it.

"It wasn't really that (hard). Most of us got it fine, except for Ethan. He wasn't very good at the beginning but then he got the hang of it," Perington said. When it was DeGroot's turn, one of the guys threw a watermelon. Even though he was expecting it, DeGroot swiped the sword and almost completely missed the watermelon. Only a little sliver was cut off the side. Even though the watermelon had pretty much been wasted, they picked up a chunk of it to throw to give him another turn. Again, he cut off just a sliver. **"I just wasn't used to wielding a sword,"** DeGroot said. "Then I got the hang of it and my accuracy improved."

Barely any of the fruit was salvageable. "Harlow ate some after, but it was gross. It had like blue tarp all over it," Handel said. The sword remains at the Culbert's until the next real-life fruit ninja session.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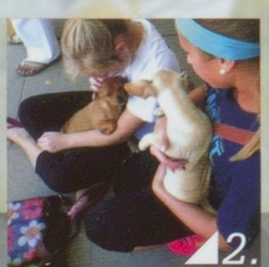
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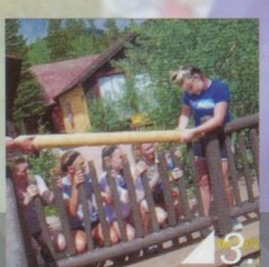
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◢**Dominant** *Junior Alex Clark attempts to fish a rubber duck out of a "pond" at one of the various game booths at Green Days held June 14-17. Clark tried four more times, but still could not successfully get one out."It looked so easy, so I gave it a shot," Clark said. "Ya, it wasn't. But it was still fun trying." photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**1.** *Cooling off the spaghetti sauce, junior Morgan Coffey takes a little sample. "It was delicious, we added different spices to it and it surprisingly ended up being good," Coffey said. Coffey and her friends enjoyed making different kinds of food together. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**2.** *Junior Laura Scieszinski and Kenzie Foldes play with puppies at the downtown farmers' market while visiting former student Madeline Taylor in California. The puppies were up for adoption. "They were so cute, we just wanted to take them home with us," Scieszinski said. photo by Kenzie Foldes*

◢**3.** *Sophomore Ellie Marckmann helps rebuild the railing of a deck at a music camp in Colorado. The Zion Lutheran youth group traveled there for mission work and service projects. "During our trip to Colorado, this project was my favorite because we could actually see the progress in our work," Marckmann said. photo by Rachel Riemenschneider*

◢**4.** *Volunteering for Silver Cord hours at a baseball game, junior Brooke Stoll and her friends handed out popcorn. "Working it is so much fun, there was never-ending laughing," Stoll said. photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**5.** *Racing against the clock, senior Zack Robinson rushes to complete the Minute To Win It game he got at Wendy's. Robinson and other members of his church were on their way to New Orleans and stopped in Arkansas for a little break from the long car ride. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢Spread by Laura Schwartz and Kelsey Acheson

◢Something Fishy

"My dad got me into fishing when I was really young, but I have loved it ever since," senior Dakota Jackson said. "My dad, brother and I always go fishing and hunting together. I love spending time with my family in the outdoors." Jackson has been on many trips fishing. "I think going fishing in Canada is my favoirte because it allows us to get away from all the problems in everyday life. Also no phone reception is awesome because you can just leave the real world behind," Jackson said. "Fishing is way better than anything here."

Summer Revival

Religous Tolerance

Drug Prevention

Gothia Cup

Chili Competition

Business Classes

August Articles

"Laura, if you're in the building, your Jimmy Johns is here," a front office secretary announces over the school intercom.

Three days before the start of school four girls sit at the computers in the LMC waiting for their lunch to arrive. "We still needed to work so we wanted to sneak [the Jimmy Johns] into the library," junior Laura Scieszinski said.

Scieszinski and three others, seniors Paige Cramer and Hannah Soyer as well as junior Kenzie Foldes decided to revive the summer issue of the school newspaper, Black and White.

Last year's editors decided not to print an August issue due to the change in the school calendar. **"We wanted to establish a presence, get people up to speed and let them know we have a newspaper,"** Soyer said.

There were obstacles faced by the newspaper staff. The school renovated the elevator over the summer, which made it impossible for Soyer, who uses a wheel chair, to access the journalism lab located on the second floor. The LMC had computers, but none of them had the InDesign software needed to create the paper.

Luckily, the newspaper staff had Tom Porter and Ryan Witt, two computer technicians, who moved three computers from the J-lab down to the library, where the staff could work. The four new editors had little instruction on how to pull off a summer paper. "There was no transition from being a staff writer to an editor," Cramer said. **"We weren't instructed what to do for the design, layouts, or the printing of the newspaper; we just had to figure it out."**

Soyer, Foldes, and Scieszinski attended a journalism camp at the University of Iowa to help organize themselves."The camp reinforced our ideas, but even more, got us fired up," Soyer said.

They started weekly meetings mid-June at places like Village Inn, where they could sit down and talk about design and story ideas. They enlisted five other staff writers to help them. After working for a while, they would take a break for lunch.

"We wanted to be cool like the editors (last year), 'cause they would order pizza and stuff, so we were like 'Let's order Jimmy Johns!'" Cramer said. "We called and ordered and the guy said he knew where the high school was." The staff worked and waited.

The girls were very surprised when the intercom came on an hour later.

"We weren't expecting it to be announced," Scieszinski said, "but all the librarians were really nice about it and we finished the issue without starving."

The final result: 12 pages of topics ranging from drug prevention programs to frozen yogurt, handed out to the student body on Aug. 20.

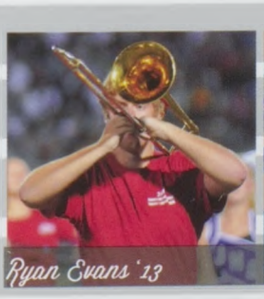
◢**Dominant**. *After concerns about its small size were voiced to administrators, the elevator was replaced during the summer. The new elevator is 2'2" taller and 2"wider than the original. photo by Adelisa Turnadzic*

◢**1.** *Sophomore Kate Minney practices a performance at band camp, an annual, week-long camp held in the summer. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**2.** *During a yearbook mixer at Texas Roadhouse, junior Anna Lam sits on the birthday saddle as fellow yearbook staff members sing "Happy Birthday." photo by Bonnie Le Page*

◢**3.** *Junior Jeremy Caracci works with a group of kids at track camp. "We got to spend some time with [the kids] doing things like sprints," Caracci said. "It was just a good way to get everybody together." photo by Kelsey Acheson*

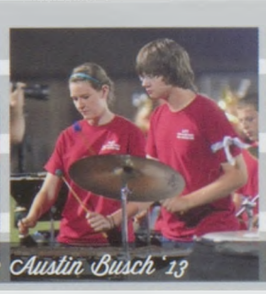
The marching band performs at the 2012 Green Days Parade, June 16. "From young to old, everyone's cheering and clapping," junior Cathy Nguyen said. "The band loves the energy, so that makes us perform with even more excitement." Despite it being an early summer morning the band and color guard made the parade and played the fight song. "We never complain about early arrival times because we all love marching band and choose to be there," Nguyen said. *photo by Kelsey Acheson*



Ryan Evans '13

Katie Giles '13

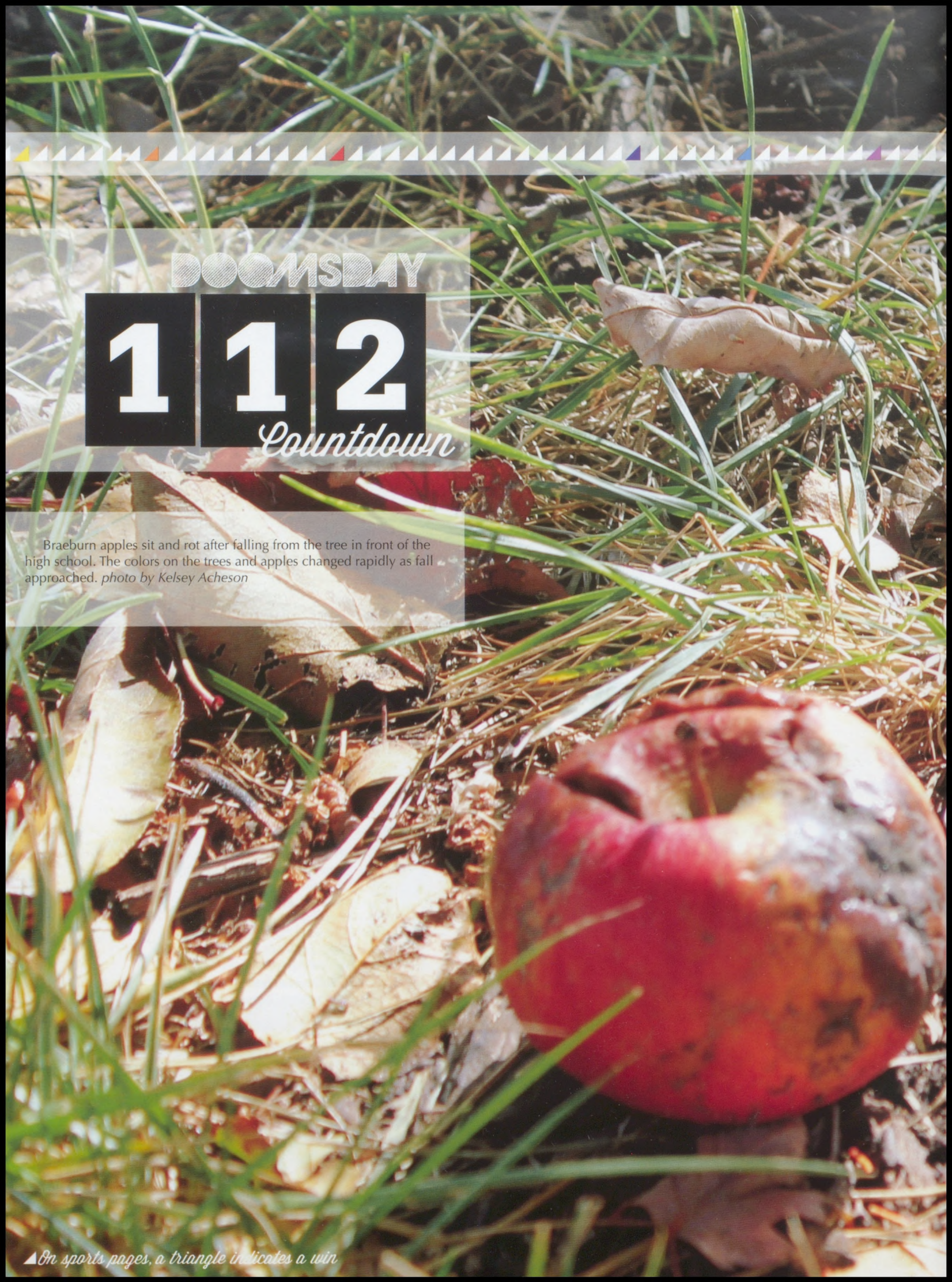
Hailey Kromminga '13



Austin Busch '13

Makinzie Sauer '13

◢Spread by Adelisa Turnadzic and Cheryl Wells



DOOMSDAY

112

Countdown

Braeburn apples sit and rot after falling from the tree in front of the high school. The colors on the trees and apples changed rapidly as fall approached. *photo by Kelsey Acheson*

▲*On sports pages, a triangle indicates a win*

Fall

September. Psy's Gangnam Style went viral across YouTube becoming the most viewed K-Pop video. The Asian invasion had started. Another YouTube film however led to the attack of U.S. embassies in Egypt and Yemen as protestors believed the video insulted Islam. Technology took over half of our days as people took over the rest, friends and family brought on fits of laughter and melodic memories.

October. Iowa weather stayed true and switched its mind many times. But Hurricane Sandy had made up her mind, wreaking havoc in New York and New Jersey. The wishy-washy weather however was not to be held responsible for the meningitis outbreak that creeped through the U.S, caused by a contaminated steroid drug.

November. Sounds of gunshots rang through the streets as the new "Call of Duty: Black Ops 2" was released. Eerily similar to the many zombie movies of our time, the zombie apocalypse took over. Even more and more of us stumbled to Zombie Burger in Des Moines, eating burgers with fried bananas and peanut butter, and drinking milkshakes with cereal thrown in, creating a clash of blue and red. The fight of colors and sides finally came to an end when Barack Obama was reelected to office along with vice-president Joe Biden. Pumpkins were smashed and minds drifted away from school. Hope had drifted to brighter days.

◢*Valley* **1st**, *Dowling Catholic* **2nd**, *Indianola* **5th**, *Walhert Invitational* **2nd**, *Dragon Invitational* **3rd**, ◢*Urbandale* **1st**, *Waukee* **2nd**, *Ames*

GOLF

Huddled together, with only moments from the start of the district meet, the golf team called it in. **"1... 2... 3... Lets get tropical,"** the team members yelled.

The call out was an invention of senior Joe Hawks when the team took a four-hour car ride to Illinois to go to a golf meet. "We were watching the movie Semi-Pro on a bus ride to Illinois for a meet, and they said it in the movie," Hawks said, "So I just picked it up from there and we've said it ever since."

The varsity team teed off at 10:00 a.m. on Oct. 2 at districts. An average 18-hole round of golf takes five hours. Each player finished consequently and returned to the Jester Park Club House to regroup and view the results of the meet.

Scores were submitted as each golfer finished his game. Senior Grant Smith shot the lowest score of the meet with 70 strokes.

"All the golfers kind of crowd around the scoreboard at the end," junior Jake Campbell said. "When we got the last few scores up there, we just knew what was going to happen, and then we all kind of went nuts."

They all knew instantly that they had made state. **"Everyone was freaking out, it was so exciting,"** junior Michael Hanstad said. For the two seniors, it was their last shot. The team had not qualified the last three years.

The members had been committed to the team since day one of the season, but raised the intensity for the district meet. "The week before the districts we practiced like none other," Smith said. "We shot difficult tee shots a lot because the coach can choose where the tee box is for the meet," Smith said. (The coach of the home course's team is allowed to choose the area of the tee box on each hole.) "We also worked a lot on our short game."

Along with physical preparation, the team trained mentally as well. "We all got together and went to a pasta dinner at [Coach Steve] Smith's house," senior Joe Hawks said. **"The whole point of it was for us to be together and talk strategy for the course."**

The course was the Tournament Course of Iowa in Polk City. The team got sixth place in the tournament of 12 teams.

Smith tied for second out of the 75 golfers in the meet and shot a 69 on the front nine and a 77 on the back nine, leaving him with a total of 146 strokes. "It was definitely something I'll remember for a while, " Smith said. "Going to state was awesome enough, but getting second and beating one of my rivals, Jeff Swegle, from Valley [High School] made it really special."

"We really had people play well at the right times," coach Smith said. **"They will always have their 'Lets get tropical' to remember."**

GOAL: MAKE THE VARSITY TEAM
"I wanted to make the varsity team at the start of the season, but [coach Steve] Smith moved me up just after the first meet!"

GOAL: SHOOT AN 85
"I set my goal at the beginning of the season, and shot an 82 at Jester Park Golf Course halfway through the season."

GOAL: GO TO STATE
"At the state tournament the golfers are really easy to be around and that made my first state tournament more enjoyable."

-Sam Buckley '15-Michael Hanstad '14-Jordan Kleindschmidt '14

Invitational **3rd**, Valley Invitational **5th**, S.E.P. Invitational **5th**, Ames **2nd**, CIML Conference **6th**, Districts **2nd**, State (Day 1) **3rd**, State (Day 2)

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◢**Dominant**. *Senior Grant Smith lines up his putt at the district meet at Johnston's home course, Jester Park Golf Course. "It was my last home invitational," Smith said. "I really wanted to win the meet, so I gave it my all and came out in first place."* *photo by Carly Crist*

◢**1.** *Sophomore Alex Burns directs his ball with his iron. "Alex always plays with his tongue out," junior Michael Hanstad said. "Every course, every hole, every shot his tongue is out."* *photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**2.** *Senior Joe Hawks begins his swing on the green of the 18th hole of the Tournament Club of Iowa Golf Course. Hawks, who had an overall successful season, had not played his best game at the meet.* *photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢**3.** *Junior Korbin Sesker pitches his ball out of a bunker on the sixth hole next to the green at the district meet at Jester Park Golf Course. "Hitting out of a bunker is a pain and rarely ever goes the way you want it to," Sesker said.* *photo by Carly Crist*

◢**4.** *Following through with his putt, junior Jake Campbell plays at the conference meet at the Tournament Club of Iowa. The golf team competed against 11 other teams.* *photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢*Spread by Tyler Fenton*

North **3-0**, ◢*Pella Christian* **3-0**, *Waukee* **3-0**, *Cedar Rapids Washington* **0-2**, ◢*Linn-Mar* **2-0**, *Cedar Rapids Xavier* **0-2**, ◢*Ames* **3-2**, **1-2**, ◢*Oskaloosa* **2-0**, *East East* **2-0**, *Urbandale* **1-2**, ◢*Urbandale* **2-3**, *West Burlington* **2-0**, ◢*West Branch* **0-2**, *Dubuque* **2-0**, ◢*Ames* **3-0**, *Cedar Falls* **3-1**, *Ankeny* **0-3**

ROCK N BLOCK

The music beings to play as the girls break out onto the dance floor in front of a crowd of family and friends. Hair propped to the side, the music begins to play as the girls dance in their cracy costume and makep. **"My group brought in rock band drums and guitars, and Sanna Rasmussen, Melinda Paszkiewicz, and I dressed in goth,"** junior Emily Hanson said. " The other people in my group went 80's and bright colors and we had a rock off."

In the middle of the volleyball practice, the coaching staff surprised the players with an interesting task. "After a practice we said were going to break them into groups, and we are inviting your family and friends, and your task is to make a music video to the songs we give you and perform live," coach Rick Brooks said. "The point was to get kids to work together at something other than volleyball and have fun doing it."

The team was ecstatic when presented with the idea. **"At first we were like 'this will be fun,' and then we were like 'oh my gosh we are going to have to do work on it,'"** junior Kaari Devens said.

Not only did the girls have to work, they had to follow the rules set up by the coaches. "Initially they thought it was exciting and they then found out that we were giving them the songs, and thought we were going to give them something terrible," Brooks said.

The coaches also randomly chose the groups that the players would be working with for the next two weeks. "He took JV and varsity and smashed them together," junior Madeline Miller said. "Each age group was split into groups."

The dances marked the second time the team had performed for their friends and family. **"When my sister played and they won state they did the dances that year,"** Paszkiewicz said.

Coincidentally, the only two teams to participate in those fun performances made it all the way to state. "We definitely got a lot of team bonding. It made us closer to our teammates and helped us play together as one," Miller said.

"We always wanted to motivate ourselves because we all had the same end goal," Miller said. The end goal was to make it to state and finish the season strong.

In their last game that determined whether they made it to state, the team had an incredible victory. **"I was anxious about it all week, but when it came down to it they were just another team. They did have a middle hitter that was 6'3", but we kept her out of play by tough serving,"** Miller said about the Cedar Falls game. Their win took them to their first state game. Unfortunately, their trip to state was short, and they lost their first game against 6th ranked Ankeny team.

Cheers filled the gym after the girls finished their dance. Friends and family looked on as the team bonding and season ended.

GOAL: BE CONSISTENT

"Without a good set, you can't really do much in volleyball, so I wanted to get better for my hitters. I worked in practice everyday on this in setting drills, team drills and scrimmaging."

-Melinda Paszkiewicz '14

GOAL: MAKE IT TO STATE

"We achieved our goal of going to state by just hard work in practice and playing as a team. It definitely helped us that we all were such great friends!"

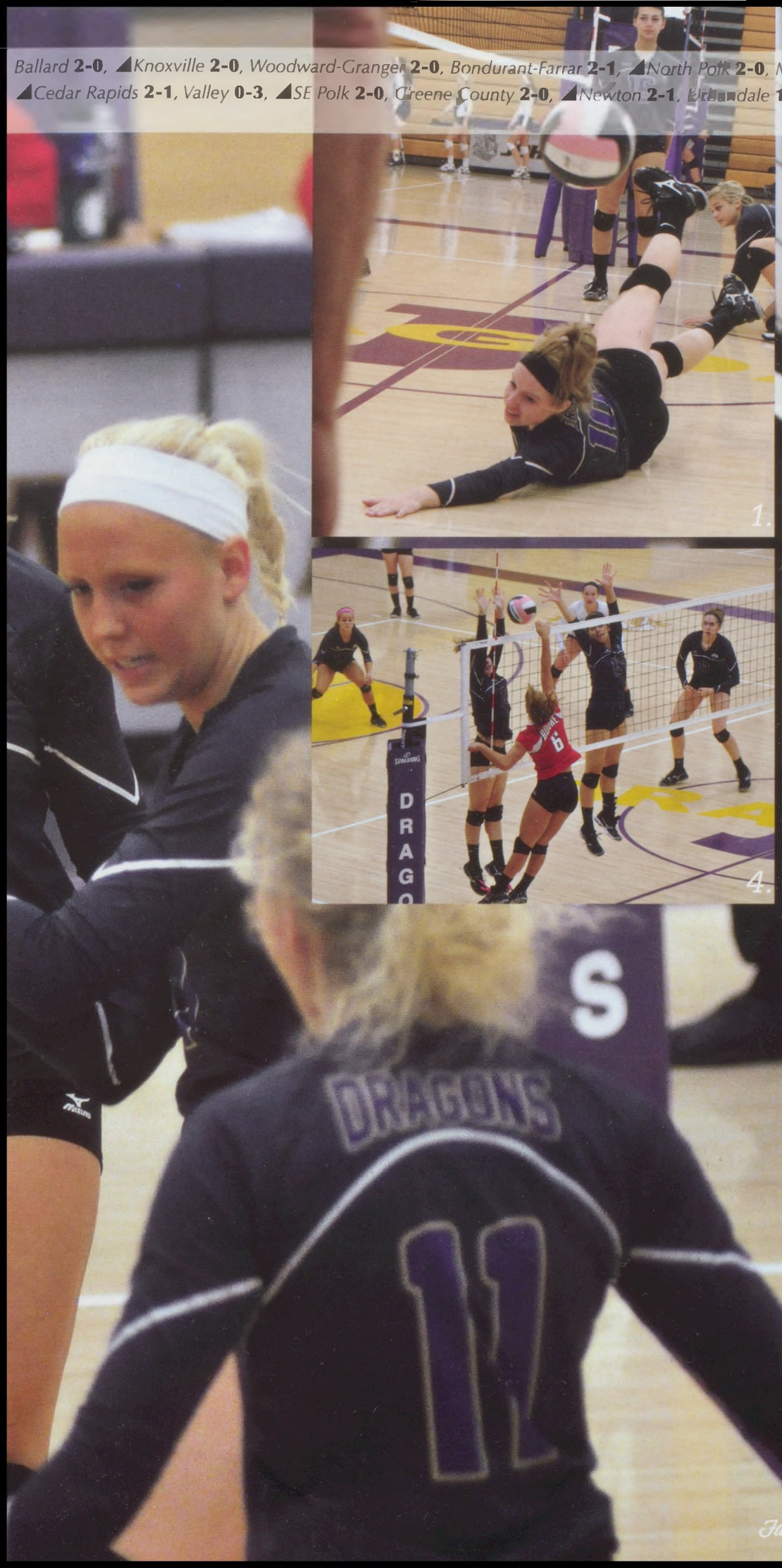
-Keely Larkin '15

GOAL: ENCOURAGE EVERYONE

"[One of my goals] was to make sure to be encouraging to everyone so that they can play their best and that it is a better environment to play in."

-Laura Ausenhus '13

Ballard **2-0**, ◢Knoxville **2-0**, Woodward-Granger **2-0**, Bondurant-Farrar **2-1**, ◢North Polk **2-0**, Mason City **3-2**, ◢Fort Dodge **3-0**, Ames ◢Cedar Rapids **2-1**, Valley **0-3**, ◢SE Polk **2-0**, Greene County **2-0**, ◢Newton **2-1**, Urbandale **1-2**, ◢Boone **2-0**, Dowling Catholic **3-2**,



◢**Dominant**. *Shouting victoriously, junior Madeline Miller and seniors Sanna Rasmussen and Elle Scott celebrate a scored point in their game against Valley.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**1.** *Diving for the ball, junior Emily Hanson attempts to keep the ball off of the floor. Even though Hanson could not save the ball, the point went to Johnston, as the ball landed out-of-bounds.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢**2.** *Scowling in disgust, sophomore Kristen Stucker, juniors Bailee Nelson and Abby Hallman, and senior Elle Scott watch as the referees make a bad call. "We were all pretty mad and upset," Stucker said. The referees had called a serve as out-of-bounds, and the players didn't agree. Fortunately, this did not hurt the team in their match.* photo by Gabby Ledesma

◢**3.** *Reaching for the ball, junior Taylor Joens tries to block against Dowling Catholic.* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢**4.** *Watching intently, juniors Bailee Nelson and Taylor Joens wait to see if juniors Emily Hanson and Kaari Devens block the ball against Boone sophomore Bailey Schminke. The block was successful, and they defeated the opponent.* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢*Spread by Bailey Pierotti and Hannah Van Zee*

Dowling Catholic **16-34**, ◢*Des Moines Lincoln* **38-15**, *Urbandale* **18-31**, *Waukee* **29-45**, *Ankeny* **7-42**, ◢*Sioux City North* **41-20**.

SMASH MOUTH

Everything was quiet in sophomore Hezekiah Applegate's mind. It was the last moments of fourth quarter. The score was tied. As the Urbandale kicker, senior Carson Hemphill, projected the ball toward the field goal, Applegate jumped up and tipped it, deflecting the ball. The crowd burst into cheers; he had just pushed the game into overtime.

For the first time in five years, Johnston had a playoff game at its home field. "You have to earn a home playoff game," coach Brian Woodley said. "You have to position yourself within your conference or district. In previous years we either played on the road or didn't make it."

The team lost an away game to Urbandale during the regular season. Performing at home field for the playoff game enthused the players. "I felt a lot more excited to play at home knowing more fans would show up," Applegate said. **"When you play a playoff game at home it's a very big deal. It makes it worth fighting for."**

Playing at home made the team more confident. "I really thought we were going to win," Applegate said. "Our offense and defense had really good game plans."

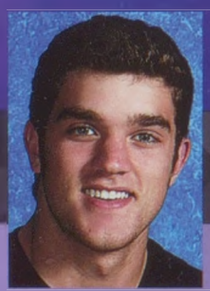
Instead of overworking themselves in preparation, both defense and offense practiced the basics. "We went over what we like to call schematics, Woodley said. "We knew what we had not done so hot on the first time and what we needed to change."

In the beginning of the playoff game, the score went back and forth. In second quarter, senior Ben Garlock took the ball away from Urbandale's junior Allen Lazard, which led to Johnston gaining a 14 point lead. Urbandale caught up again and the game was pushed into overtime. **"By then we were just like 'We need to win this,"** junior Jasmin Muratovic said, **"We're this close."**

Both teams made a touchdown and a PAT, the score was still tied. In double overtime Urbandale made a field goal, but senior Marcus Montgomery scored a touchdown to win the game for Johnston. "When Marcus scored the last touchdown (the team) went to celebrate with him," Muratovic said. "**You saw everyone running at you like a stampede; the fans were just going crazy.**"

Johnston also played Urbandale last year in playoffs. "I was glad that we played Urbandale two years in a row in playoffs," senior Sam Schade said. "We got to upset them because nobody expected us to win."

The team finished the season against Valley. They ended up second, after Ankeny, in the 4A-2 district ranking with a record of six wins and five losses. "We definitely did do some good things," Woodley said. "Home playoffs was huge for us. We've got nothing to hang our heads about. We had a good ride and it made it worth it."



GOAL: START DEFENSE

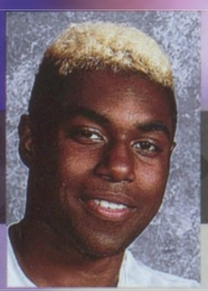
"When we played Ames we really came together and fought hard and won. Our offense connected with the plays and our defense really stopped their offense."

-Luke McDermott '14

GOAL: BE THE BETTER TEAM

"The game we reached that goal was the Urbandale playoff game. Because we lost the first time, we came in with a whole different plan."

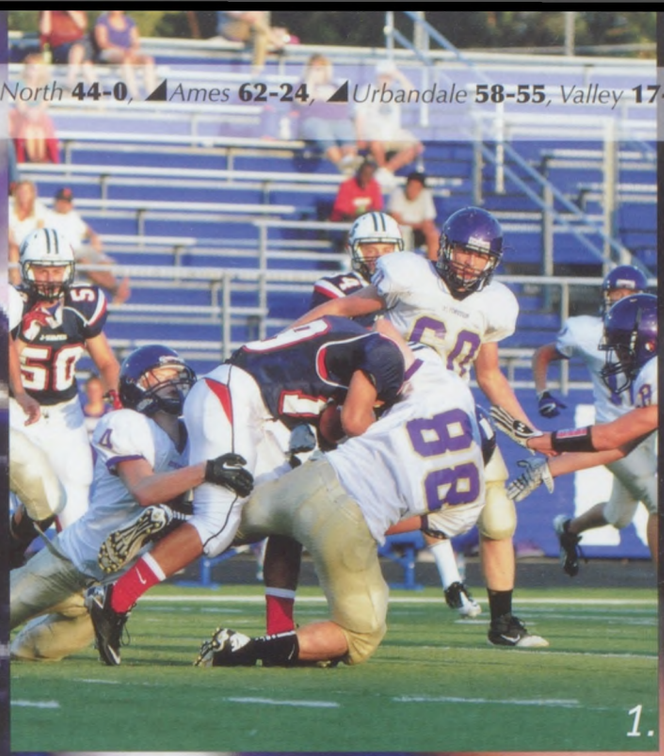
-Alex McCune '13



GOAL: GO TO THE DOME

"It's just something I want to be a part of. After the Urbandale game I felt like we could because we really pulled together and we beat a ranked team."

-Jordan Weddington '15



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◢**Dominant**. *Senior running back Kyle Timmerman races past Waukee's defense in effort to get a first down. Timmerman made a total of 58 plays during the season with 53 rush attempts.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**1.** *During the sophomore game against Urbandale, defensive back Regen Siems and linebacker Andrew Heuss take down the Urbandale ballholder. "My favorite game was the overtime win against Lincoln," Heuss said. "The score went back and forth the whole game, but in the end we had a momentum which gave us the win."* photo by Catherine Roby

◢**2.** *From the sidelines, senior Andy Bevis watches his teammates play against Urbandale. "At the end of the game I was really disappointed that we were beat by them for the third time in a row," Bevis said. "But it felt incredible to finally beat them in the playoffs."* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**3.** *As senior Trevor McCauley holds the ball, junior Pete Lashier advances for the first field goal of the season during the Dowling Catholic game. As kicker, Lashier made 18 points with three field goals and nine points after touchdowns.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**4.** *After catching a pass, senior Brock Hoffmann runs upfield to evade Sioux City North's defensive linebacker Alex Berger. Hoffmann made a total of 36 plays and 12 points as wide receiver during the season.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢*Spread by Clara Carlson and Kelsey Acheson*

◢*Des Moines North* **132-58**, ◢*Lewis Central* **128-55**, **3-4**, ◢*Waukee* **110-76**, *Ames* **85-101**, *Dowling Catholic* **86-100**, *Cougar Invite* **545.5/2nd**, *Johnston Invite* **324/2nd**,

SHIRACH SHIRACH

Gearing up for her turn to swim on the relay against their rivals for the night's dual, Valley, senior Victoria Trost watches junior Mollie Greenwood swim. Trost's freshman year they'd won against Valley for the first time in five years; Valley was undefeated.

"I can just remember people screaming your name, 'Go Nicole, Go Caylee, Go Mollie, Go Victoria,'" Greenwood said. "You just stand there, and you're like 'we gotta do this.'"

The team beat Valley in 2009, the last time a duel meet took place between the two teams. Before that, they hadn't won since 2004. The seniors, in particular, wanted to win this duel.

"We would have to do phenomenal in order for us to win," Greenwood said. Although the girls did not taper, they practiced daily for the meet.

"I wasn't that confident," Greenwood said. "But I remember, as soon as the Valley swimmers walked in they weren't talking amongst each other; they weren't really excited about it." In contrast, Johnston's team members were very energetic before their meets; they tried to be upbeat to get a win. **"Before the meet started we were all really excited about it. I could just tell that the other team, their heart wasn't in it."** Greenwood said. The girls chanted cheers before the meet and sang "Faith" by Limp Bizkit in the locker room, a tradition before every meet.

Valley and Johnston were neck and neck with their times all throughout the meet and the win could have gone either way. In order to win the meet, the swimmers in the very last event, the 400 freestyle relay had to get first place with their A relay team for the 400 free and third place with their B relay team.

With a disqualification in the 200 yard medley relay at the very beginning of the meet a few of the girls were bummed out, but they managed to collect themselves. "They became more determined and were focused as a team," Coach Shari Walling said.

After the A team race, Greenwood, Davis, Trost, and Urbandale senior Caylee Shank, saw that they had won. "We were on the (400 free) relay, and we were going crazy because we won. Then we all just got up and went over to the other lane, where the other Johnston swimmers were, and cheered for Shayla," junior Nicole Davis said. Sophomore Shayla Warrick was the anchor for the B team relay. The B team beat the Valley B team by about a second.

"As soon as you got out of the water, you could just feel all the electricity in the air," Warrick said, **"Everyone was just hugging each other, and there were people crying, and we were just so pumped, it was just one of the best feelings ever."**

The team, especially the seniors, were ecstatic about their win because they were finally able to beat Valley.

GOAL: MAKE STATE DIVING

"Last year I was really close to making (state diving). During the off season I did club diving at the Waukee YMCA, and I worked really hard this season to make that goal. I was really excited to make state."

-Mallorie Goodale '14

GOAL: SWIM FAST

"One of my goals was to improve my times. Everyone wants to drop time and be the fastest they can be. My times have improved a lot from last year." I'm really happy with them.

-Selena Young '15

GOAL: MAKE REGIONALS

"Last year I was really close to making it (to regionals) so that's what I was reaching for." I was an alternate for the 200 Free relay on the state team. I was so shocked that I was on the state team."

-Shayla Warrick '15

◢Mason City **58-44**, ◢Fort Dodge **152-34**, ◢Valley **94-92**, Ames Invite **350/2nd**, BOBC Invite **373/1st**,

STATE SQUAD

Seven guys stand in their starting box, all of them in the set position, waiting in anticipation for the loud burst of the start gun. For some of the varsity runners, this is their first time at state. A hush falls over the crowd of parents and coaches; they too are waiting for the race to start.

The team — senior Tyson Wieland, juniors Jeremy Caracci, Adam Johanson, David Rice and Connor Westlake, sophomore Josh Borwick and freshman Drew Hershey — had one goal in mind — beat last year's state placing. They had placed eighth and wanted to crack the top five.

Training for cross country officially started Aug. 30, but some started even earlier. The summer practices started right after school got out, so the runners never really had an "off season." Over the months of training, the team cranked out a lot of miles.

"During the season, I run 80 plus miles per week," Wieland said. **"The meets are really just payment for putting in the miles."** It seemed that the more they ran, the faster they ran in meets. It was all about getting into one of the top five spots.

However, running isn't the only way the guys prepared for meets. The varsity runners cross-trained by doing water workouts in the pool and lifting weights in the fitness center twice a week in the summer, as well as core workouts three times a week during the season.

"The week leading up to state, we turned down the intensity of our workouts a little bit," Borwick said. They didn't want to wear themselves out. "We also did some 'State Squad' team building activities," Borwick said. Through these activities, the team got to know each other better and started hanging out as a team outside of school. They did things like celebrate birthdays, organize morning practices, and play team bonding games. This helped them push each other towards success at state.

State was held at Lakeside Golf Course in Fort Dodge on Oct. 27. **"It was one of the better courses we've raced on,"** Borwick said. "It had very good footing and it was good for the spectators too because it was so wide open."

The moment of truth had arrived. The gun went off and the runners took off. "I knew there was a really good runner behind me, so I had to keep pushing through the finish line," Wieland said, finishing tenth with a time of 15:29.

Not only did Johnston have its first individual top ten finish, but the team also placed sixth, earning a total of 195 points. They didn't make their goal, but they did improve from last year.

"I was really excited because it was my first time going to state," Westlake said, "My goal was put a time on record, and I did, I ran 16:03 at state." About half of the State Squad achieved personal records at the meet.

"Crossing the finish line was a sigh of relief, I had a good idea of what place I was and it was good to know that all went accordingly," Wieland said. The team hopes to repeat their success at state next year and reach their goal of placing in the top five.

"All of the things that we did helped us lay it all on the line for each other," Rice said. **"We had the best finish in Johnston history."**

GOAL: RUN UNDER 17:00

"I was really pressured to do cross country by my friends and coaches from track. I wasn't in cross country until last year, but it's been fun, my best time was 16:42."

-Ryan Tigges '13

GOAL: RUN UNDER 20:00

"I reached my goal at the Waukee meet, and I had an amazing time being on the team this year. I can't wait for next season. My goal for next year is to earn a varsity letter."

-Josh Hjelmaas '14

GOAL: BEAT PERSONAL RECORD

"I started at 28 minutes and got down to 21 by the end of the season. (I wanted to do this) just for personal improvement. And it's something everyone wants to do."

-Daniel Corbin '15

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◢**Dominant**. *As the sun sets, junior Nate Eggleston focuses on keeping his eyes up as he nears the finish line."It helps me when I run to keep my head up. It focuses me on a guy I need to pass or a hill I need to get ready for," Eggleston said. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**1.** *Cheered on by his teammate sophomore Elliot Suiter, sophomore Ben Renner strides down a hill while a Roosevelt runner tries to pass him on the downhill. Renner finished the conference meet at Ft. Dodge with a time of 17:14. His season best was 16:56 at the Waukee meet. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**2.** *Freshman Frank Boksa sprints forward as coach Matt Jaschen urges him on. "I was coaching Frank as he nears the finish line at Ames," Jaschen said. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**3.** *Senior Tyson Wieland sprints to keep his place at the Indianola Invitational. He was closely followed by Valley runner Daniel Soto and Dowling Catholic runner Lukas Steffensmeier. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**4.** *Running next to a Mason City runner, junior Jeremy Caracci races at the Fort Dodge meet. "This meet was kind of weird," he said. "It was like a preview of state because we were running the same course, but just a week earlier." photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢*Spread by Anna Lam and Cheryl Wells*

BRAGGING

A crowd swarms the results board after the finish of the girls' state cross country meet in Fort Dodge. In the middle of it, coach Patrick Hennes skims the first couple places not finding the team's name until he reaches the seventh spot. "I felt a little disappointed, but I knew that it was still a very good finish," Hennes said.

He then notices senior Bailey Eppard's dead last finish with a time of more than four hours. She placed 18th, so Hennes asks for a review of the results. "I never saw my name as dead last, but laughed when I heard about the mistake," Eppard said. "I probably would have been the record holder for the slowest time at the state meet!"

By the time Hennes discovered the error, the podium ceremony had already taken place.

"We were all just talking on our cool down and all of a sudden we heard 'Johnston girls' cross country, please report to the clubhouse' over the speakers," sophomore Jordyn Kleve said. "We didn't know what was going on."

The girls looked at each other.

"We thought we were in trouble," junior Kenzie Foldes said. "After everyone being dead from racing, we all like sprinted to the clubhouse."

Upon reaching the clubhouse Hennes, coach Chris Siewert, and parents were telling them good job. "We're just like 'What's going on?'" Kleve said. "The guy asked us to come inside and then they told us we placed third."

Screaming erupted.

"Jordyn Kleve and I just jumped on each other and were screaming," Foldes said. "The first and second place people were like 'That's really good guys, good job.' And I was like 'Well good job to you but this is really good for us.'"

Like Hennes, the girls had hoped for more than seventh place.

"We were surprised because we didn't expect that we would do that well," Kleve said. "We were hoping to place top five, but we didn't know we'd actually place top three and we would get a plaque." The podium ceremony was not redone when the results changed. Beating Cedar Rapids Kennedy by only two points to get to third place, and placing higher than Dowling Catholic, the team achieved the highest ranking in school history at a state cross country meet.

"Even though the Dowling (Catholic) runners didn't have their best day, it was still exciting that we beat them," Kleve said. **"It made us all realize that it is possible to beat them."**

Foldes read in the newspaper that people were amazed that Dowling (Catholic) lost. **"I think that runners, especially girls running against Dowling (Catholic), realized that they're not unbeatable, they're just like us.**

Last year, the team earned seventh place, and second to last the year before. "We just had a heck of a year," Foldes said. **"When we go around saying 'Hey we got third,' people don't realize how hard it is to accomplish that."**

GOAL: MAKE IT UP HILLS

"Coach Hennes often refers to the phrase, 'Crest, don't Rest' when reaching the top of a hill. It's helped me push past other runners who may charge the hill, but reward themselves with rest at the top."

-Ivy Wu '13

GOAL: STRONGER FINISHES

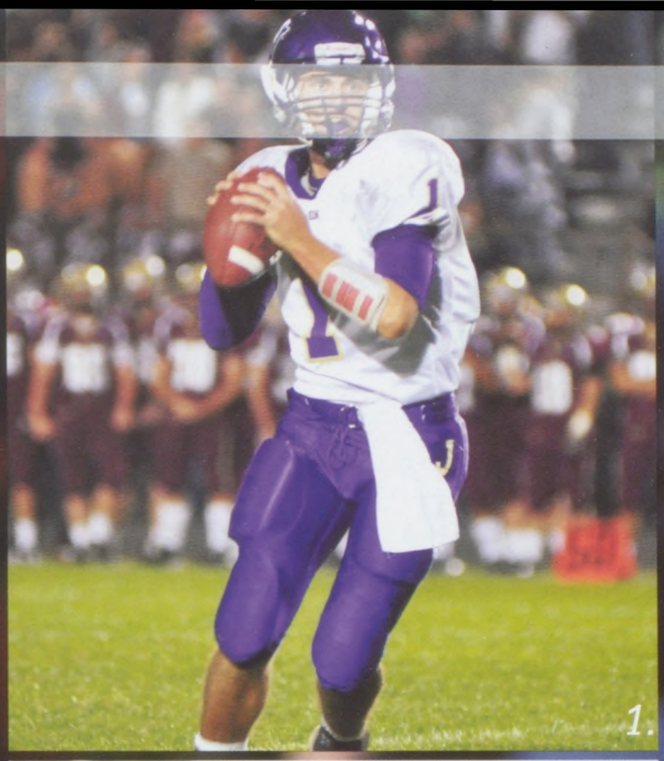
"I wanted to be able to give all the energy I had left at the finish and hold nothing back. I tried to not think about how tired I was. Instead, I focused on using all the energy I had left to cross the finish line."

-Ronnoja Ayers '14

GOAL: RUN VARSITY AT DISTRICTS AND STATE

"I was five seconds away from my goal time (16 mins) and one spot away from being on varsity. I was really close!"

-Emma Thayer '15



◢**Dominant**. *Leading the pack, sophomore Ellen Bennett pushes her way through the large square Ames course. With a time of 17.39, Bennett ended the race in 61st place.* *photo by Anna Lam*

◢**1.** *Making her way across the bridge, senior Ivy Wu strides toward the end of the Johnston Invitational course. Wu finished the home invitational in 17th place with a time of 20.02.* *photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**2.** *Sophomores Kelsey Caffrey and Bailey Pohlman sign a picture frame for senior Lorenza Gentili on Nov. 4 at the cross country banquet. Each teammate wrote a special message for all of the seniors.* *photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**3.** *With her sights focused on the finish line, junior Kenzie Foldes passes her Urbandale Trina Moreno opponent on the last leg of the race at Valley. Ending the race with a time of 16:19, Foldes finished 14th overall and second for the team right behind sophomore Jordyn Kleve.* *photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢**4.** *With the cheering of the crowd, sophomore Sandra Kromminga sprints her way down the last straight away of the Valley race. Kromminga was one of the seven Johnston runners who qualified to represent the team at state on Oct. 27 in Indianola.* *photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢*Spread by Megan Buckallew and Katrina Fey*

Take Off Your Dancing Shoes

Piled onto an assortment of beanbags, love sacks, and couches, eight seniors watch the large projection screen in the basement of senior Joe Dailey's house. They're all wondering the same thing, "Where is the Slender Man?"

Senior Ryan Evans, currently at the controls for the game Slender: The Eight Pages, glances around nervously at his friends. "Should I do a 360 and see if he's around me?" Evans said. When they agree, he swivels his character in the game around in a circle. The search for the tall, faceless animation proves fruitless. Relieved, Evans begins to turn his character back in the direction he had been going when suddenly, Slender appears in front of him. "**Everyone jumped**," Evans said.

They played for a while longer, everyone getting a chance to try and win the first-person horror game, and eventually settled down to watch a movie.

Daily planned the get-together as an alternative to the homecoming dance. "I have done the dance thing twice and I would say my house was more fun," Dailey said.

Senior Kayla Jansen joined Dailey and Evans. "[Going to Dailey's house] was more fun because you didn't have to awkwardly watch people grind," Jansen said.

Evans had his own reasons for skipping the dance. "Last year, we kind of danced, but it was really hot," Evans said. "We all ended up standing outside and it was really boring." Evans decided to save his dancing for prom, in the spring. "Homecoming is less about the dancing and more about just hanging out, whereas prom is a lot more formal and does more with dancing," Evans said.

Several other groups of students planned their own events, including junior Anna Lam. Some of Lam's group put on fancy dresses and suits, ate at Applebees, and then all of them went bowling at Merle Hay Lanes.

"**Bowling shoes and fancy dresses are going to be the new trend**," Lam said.

Junior Samantha Long, who spent the evening hurling a fourteen-pounder down the glossy lanes in a green dress and squeaky brown bowling shoes, had not been sure at first whether she wanted to go to the dance or not. "I remember being very unimpressed with the dance last year," Long said. "**I was majorly debating whether I was going to go**." She decided against the dance, and ended up having a better time at "anti-homecoming" anyway.

Junior Katie Landy throws a bowling ball down her lane. "Everyone was looking at us kind of weird because we were all dressed up in our homecoming dresses and bowling shoes," Landy said, "It was very random, and tons of fun."
photo by Anna Lam

"First a few of us went to Anna's house and put on some music and dressed up in costumes or dresses to go bowling," Long said. By the time the group rolled into the bowling alley, it was well past eleven, but they were not tired. Lam, Long, and their friends bowled, sang and danced to the music playing on the alley's speakers, and generally had a good time together. "At one point at the bowling alley, one of us rolled a ball as slow as possible down the lane, and we all waited and cheered," Long said.

Similarly, Evans preferred games and movies with his friends to the homecoming dance. "**In my opinion, it doesn't matter what you do on homecoming night, as long as you're having fun**," Evans said.

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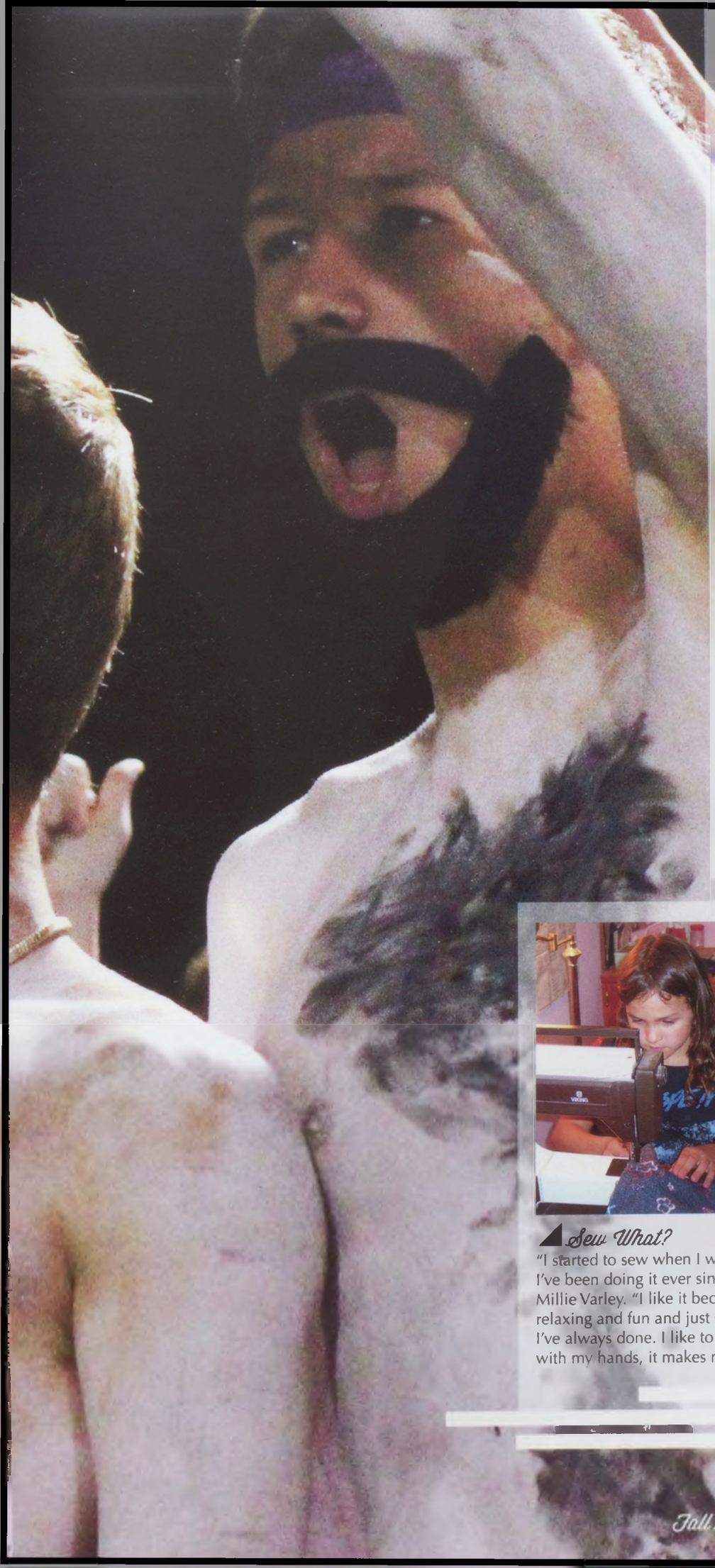

◢**Dominant.** *Fake moustache-and beard-clad Dalton Handel, senior, instructs the other students to cheer in the student cheer section. Handel, accompanied by A.J. Keech, led the section during the homecoming game. photo by Adelisa Turnadzic*

◢**1.** *Junior Stevie Watts lays down in the Mars Walk exhibit at the Science Center and feels a force on her face. The machine applied pressure to her body to simulate what being on Mars would feel like. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**2.** *Adding some finishing touches to her poster, sophomore Hailey Cooper prepares for the homecoming parade. Her poster went on the Kids Living Brave float, a corporation started by Cooper and family. Kids Living Brave was created to support kids in Iowa with cancer and their families. Cooper's younger brother, Carson, was diagnosed with leukemia in the spring of 2011. photo by Liera Bender*

◢**3.** *Getting into the game, seniors Kaitlin Stitz, Ashley Shay, and Waukee graduate Grant Christian play Mario Kart at Overtime. After every home football game students were able to go to Johnston Evangelical Free Church for free pizza, video games and dodgeball. photo by Carly Crist*

◢**4.** *For a part-time job during the school year, junior Ellen Espeland works at Panera Bread putting together orders and serving meals. Other students had also worked at Panera to earn some extra money, like senior Rachel Anderson. photo by Hannah Van Zee*

◢**5.** *Cheering on the football team during senior night, senior Karsen Kramer and various other students raise their arms and shout. Seniors that night wore different attire to show their spirit like purple and gold painted overalls, face paint and some students even went as far as painting their whole bodies. photo by Hannah Van Zee*

Spread by Hannah Van Zee and Anna Lam

◢Sew What?

"I started to sew when I was eight and I've been doing it ever since," junior Millie Varley. "I like it because it's relaxing and fun and just something I've always done. I like to make things with my hands, it makes me feel really productive. I first competed in the open class sewing competition at my county fair. It was a pair of denim drawstring pants with embroidered flowers all over. I'm fairly certain there weren't any other eight year olds competing with me, but I did win best of show."

Teach Me How to Dougie

Teacher Kristi Mundy weaved between crowds of high schoolers at the homecoming dance in search of students breaking their code of conduct contracts. Near the center of the crowd, Mundy spotted sophomore Nikia Pope and her date, approached them and taped her date on the shoulder. Instead of intentionally embarrassing them, she tried to make light of the situation.

"Mundy walked up to me and said 'You don't wanna see me doing that so I don't wanna see you doing that,'" Pope said. "I was like, okay, I waited for her to walk off and we started grinding again. That's why you stand in the center because they can't see you as well."

Two years ago parent chaperones complained about the grinding. This led to students then signing contracts with the agreement being "no grinding."

Mundy and 10 other teachers chaperoned the dance. Along with these staff members, four parents volunteered to supervise. The students widely outnumber the teachers, which made it hard for the adults to keep an eye on the students and also made it more uncomfortable to approach the students.

"I mostly said things like 'Keep it classy, Johnston' and 'If you wouldn't want to see me dance that way, then I don't want to see you dance that way,'" the Mundy said.

Most teachers passed up the "opportunity" to chaperone the homecoming dance. Either they had plans, or just admitted that they did not want to experience their students dancing inappropriately. Even though some teachers had very low expectations for appropriate behavior at the dance, exaggerations might have been made. "I can say that it was not as bad as I had anticipated," Mundy said.

Pope thought otherwise. **"There was some excessive grinding, it made me uncomfortable," she said.**

During her first year of chaperoning, Mundy taught students more proper dance moves. "There were a few times throughout the dance when I asked students to change how they were dancing," Mundy said. "I would just make a comment about not wanting to see them dance inappropriately, and I even suggested some more appropriate alternatives for dancing."

Sophomores Rebecca Stahr and Marcus Miller slow dance together at homecoming. "I asked her (to homecoming) by using sidewalk chalk on her driveway," Miller said. "I had to get some friends to try and stall her so I could beat her to her house and get everything written. However, it turns out she already knew I was going to ask her." photo by Tyler Fenton

She taught students the dougie. "I did show the students (this dance), although it wasn't really an accurate portrayal," she said. "I don't have enough rhythm to do it well.

She also taught a simple dance. **"I also showed them how to do the dub step, which is a super easy move that allows people with no rhythm, like myself, to look like they know how to dance."**

No students were willing to come forward and admit that Mundy taught them to dance.

Mundy said homecoming ought to be fun, and she felt she could show students that they can have fun without crossing boundaries. "Johnston has a great student body, and most of our kids really just want to have fun," she said.

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Dominant. *Volleyball players Melinda Paszkiewicz, Kaari Devens, Rachel Atkinson and Bailee Nelson participate in sidewalk painting at the stadium. "We picked flaming 'J' since it's on our apparel," Nelson said. "Then we did 'One drive, one dream, one team' because that's this year's slogan." photo by Claire Sevenich*

1. *Senior Kenzie Johnson slides down the tarp and gets coated in chocolate pudding. The pudding slip-n-slide was the first station her team went to at Rock Around the Clock. photo by Laura Schwartz*

2. *Before being announced as homecoming queen, senior Karsen Kramer walks down the track with her parents. "(When) they said my name I was shocked," Kramer said. "Being in front of all of those people made the experience a crazy one." photo by Anna Lam*

3. *Senior Julia Ratekin and sophomores Alyssa Cheng and Aaron Brault load their plates at the band tailgate before the homecoming football game. The meal cost $5 and included lasagna, a cookie, chips, and a drink. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

4. *Glancing back at the audience junior Brooke Stoll takes a break from the powderpuff game against the sophomores. "I don't remember the score," Stoll said. "All I know is we beat the sophomores and that's what mattered." photo by Swathi Somisetty*

4. *Sophomore cheerleaders Kaitlin Pranger and Addison Bolles hold up the signs 'H' and 'S' during the homecoming parade. "It was fun being in the homecoming parade and being able to cheer Johnston up," Bolles said. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

Spread by Puja Sookram and Elizabeth Reiher

Playing Away

"I loved to play "make believe" when I was younger," junior Samay Koduvalli said. His first chance to be in a play was as a second grader for a play called "It's a Jungle Out There." "Now, I'm pressed for time, and sadly, I don't have time to participate in any of the plays," Koduvalli said. "But the speaking skills I learned through acting have helped me immensely in many other parts of my life." Though he has not had much time to participate recently, if he had the chance, he definitely would. "I still love watching theater," Koduvalli said.

ROLE REVERSAL

Role Reversal

With a shaky voice, sophomore Shannon Hartle walked up to her homecoming date, Jordan Weddington, also a sophomore, and asked the million dollar question, "Will you dance with me in the co-ed dance?"

Showing a fair amount of hesitation Weddington grinned with a little chuckle and responded, "Of course I'll do the co-ed dance with you." He made her day.

This was the dance team's second annual co-ed dance, which was performed at the homecoming pep assembly. Each member of the team asked a guy willing to perform a choreographed dance in front of the entire student body.

Some of the girls had an easier time than others asking their partner to perform such a big favor. For example, junior Brianna DeMoss asked her brother, sophomore Kameron DeMoss. "I asked my brother because I knew he'd probably be more mature than another guy," she said. **"We're going to keep the sibling duo a tradition!"**

It wasn't just the girls who had a tough time with the dance. Some of the guys had a hard time dealing with the fact that they would be performing in front of the school within just a week's time.

Sophomore Reid Sinnett partnered with Darian Huff, also a sophomore. "I was very nervous," Sinnett said. **"I was shaking the entire time before we started dancing."**

Sinnett admitted to not being the best dancer. "He was nervous but ended up doing a good job," Huff said.

On the other hand, some guys had an easier time dealing with the crowd. Sophomore Hezekiah Applegate was thrilled at the opportunity to show the school his dance moves. **"I didn't really care what I was doing, I just had fun doing it,"** Applegate said. Applegate was not originally partnered with sophomore Karli Killian but the two made it work.

"Karli was very helpful, we had a lot of fun, even though she gave me a hard time sometimes," Applegate said.

"I just told him not to break my toe, cause he broke Darian's the day before," Killian said.

Dance team enjoyed the experience. **"Getting to do the co-ed dance with my best friend (Dalton Handel) made my last homecoming week the best one by far,"** senior Katelyn Lunders said.

Dance Camp

Team Bonding

Practice

Half-Time Performances

Competitions

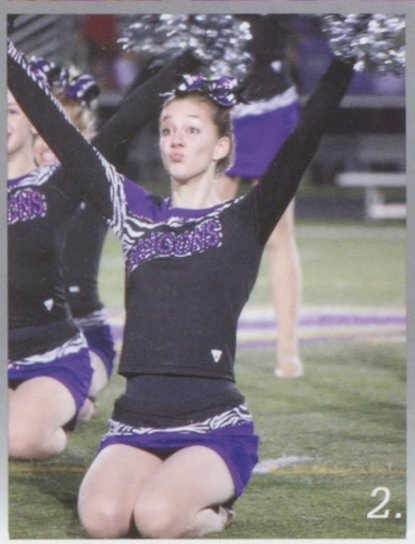
Dynamics of Dance

Dominant. *Junior Brianna DeMoss yells out "J-H-S" in the varsity dance team state pom routine. The team used vocals during turns and other sharp movements.* photo by Adelisa Turnadzic

1. *Tying the knots on princess crowns at Jordan Creek Mall, juniors Lauren Stenger and Samantha Long volunteer at a princess party. This served as their required NHS fall service project.* photo by Bonnie Le Page

2. *During the dance team's homecoming performance, senior Stephanie Phillips makes a facial. This pom dance was choreographed by Iowa State's assistant dance team coach, Sarah Stevens.* photo by Adelisa Turnadzic

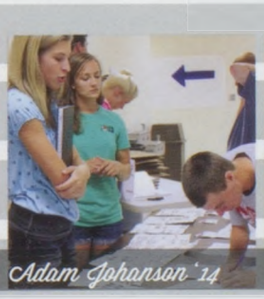
3. *Junior Jason Kuningsburg blares his trumpet during a football game. The marching band's fall music selection was from the musical West Side Story.* photo by Anna Lam



The varsity cheerleaders and the Dragon mascot, junior Sam Huisinga, pep up the crowd with their "And we're marching" cheer at the Waukee game. For that cheer and a few others, cheerleaders dropped their poms like for cheers that required the sound of hands clapping, but otherwise they were constantly keeping hold of the them. Only cheerleaders that were sophomores and older used poms. photo by Anna Lam

Allyse Shoeman '14

Zach Walker '15



Adam Johanson '14

Sarah Birkett '14

Kaylee Stubbs '15

▲Spread by Liera Bender and Alexandra Reiher

Tiger Teeth

The tiger's large teeth shone brightly from inside its cage while it gobbled the meat it was being fed. Students stood close to the tiger's cage, surrounded by the smell of cat urine in the big cats' enclosure. The tiger took one student, senior Kenzie Johnson, aback. **"It had the biggest teeth you've ever seen,"** Johnson said.

Johnson was one of the 11 students that participated in the behind-the-scenes tour at the zoo for the Advanced Life Science Animals field trip. Teacher Kyla Burns had worked with the Blank Park Zoo to teach workshops to other teachers, and she set up the special visit.

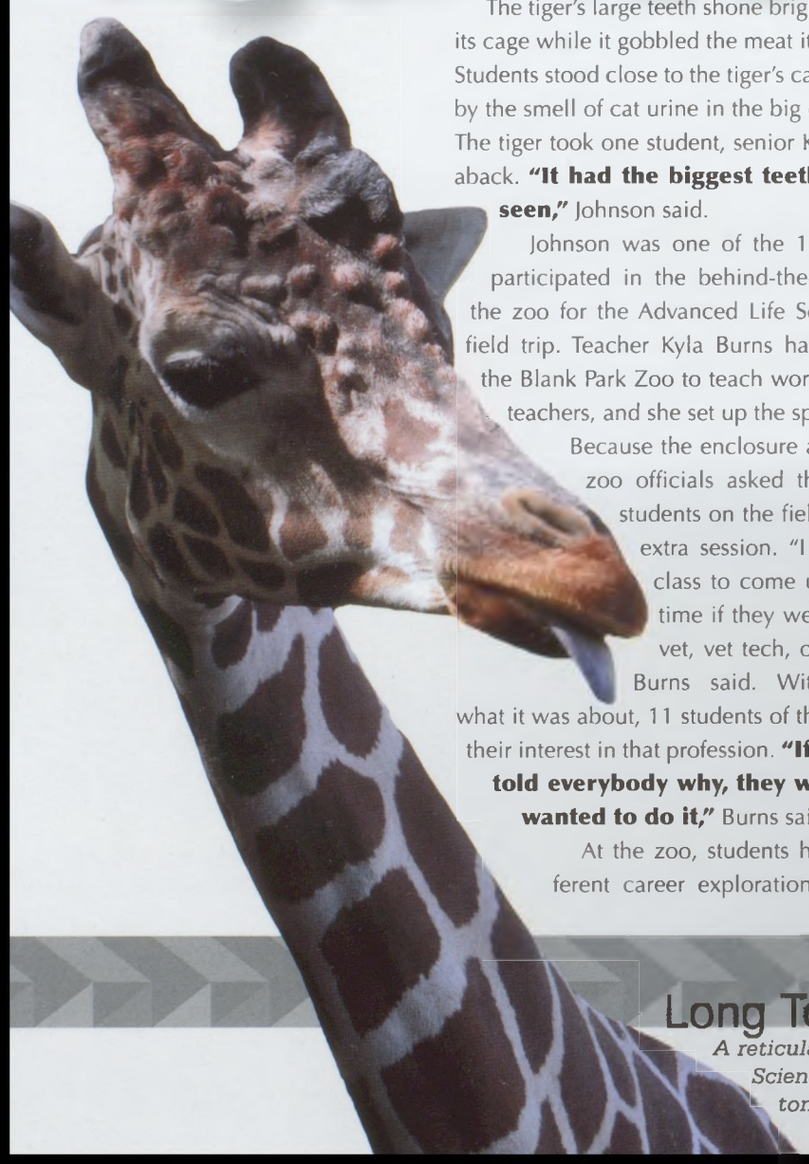
Because the enclosure areas are small, zoo officials asked that only a few students on the field trip go to the extra session. "I asked them in class to come up during work time if they were interested in vet, vet tech, or animal care," Burns said. Without knowing what it was about, 11 students of the 90 expressed their interest in that profession. **"If I would have told everybody why, they would have all wanted to do it,"** Burns said.

At the zoo, students heard about different career explorations dealing both with and without animals. The zoo needs zoologists, but it also hires plant scientists, accountants, and event planners that get to plan fundraisers and even weddings at the zoo. "The zookeepers talked about how they got there and their background, showed the enclosures and described a normal day," Burns said.

Senior Haley Morris went on the tour because she was interested in being a vet for exotic animals or a marine biologist. "I'm planning on majoring in animal sciences and biology at Iowa State," Morris said. "I thought that would be a good experience seeing the behind-the-scenes at the zoo."

Morris was the most interested in the snow leopard, an endangered spieces native to Central Asia, which the students were also able to see in the big cats' enclosure. **"Its head looked misshapen, way different than I thought it was supposed to look like,"** Morris said.

Morris was not the only student who was surprised by how the animals looked when able to view them closely. When Johnson watched the zookeeper feed the tiger its meal, she was only about two feet away. **"You don't realize how big they are and how scary their teeth are until you are right there,"** Johnson said.



Long Tongue

A reticulated giraffe sticks his tongue out at the Advanced Life Science Animals students on their field trip. Giraffes use their tongues to grasp foliage and groom themselves.

◢Spread by Carly Crist

◢Dominant. *With the company of Dolly the llama, junior Craig O'Keefe poses for a picture at the Blank Park Zoo. Alumni Carly O'Keefe took his picture when she chaperoned the Advanced Life Science field trip.* photo by Carly Crist

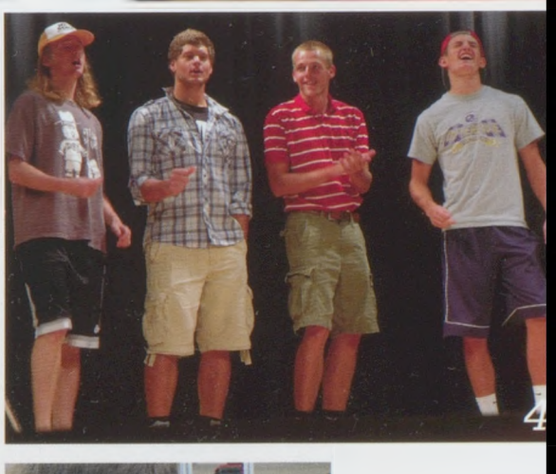
◢1. *For Track 2 P.E. junior Brianna DeMoss aims for a tennis ball to smack back at her opponents. Individual/Dual Sports focused on games like tennis, archery and ping-pong.* photo by Carly Crist

◢2. *For the calorimetry lab in AP Chemistry, senior Sindhu Gollapudi takes the temperature with a lab probe. The same day was PJ/Formal Day for homecoming dress-up.* photo by Carly Crist

◢3. *Senior Kara Ganzer draws abstract objects signifying a certain subject she wants to learn more about in drawing class. "I enjoyed it as I learned so much about anatomy by drawing each little detail of the things I drew," Ganzer said.* photo by Carly Crist

◢4. *Seniors Myles Anderson, Marcus Devens, Joe Hawks and Brock Hoffmann sing "Don't Stop Believin'" on stage for an improv in Advanced Speech.* photo by Carly Crist

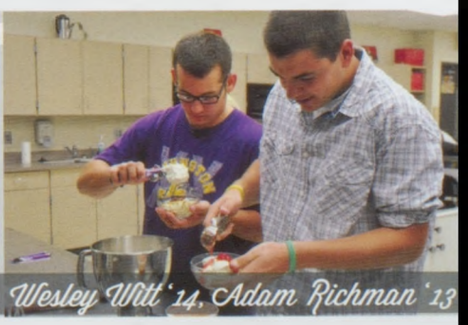
◢5. *Connecting a cable, sophomore Ryan Decker completes his elevator in CIM (Computer Integrated Manufacturing). Students made freight elevators that stopped at three floors using parts and programming software.* photo by Carly Crist



◢Batter to Biscuits

Senior Mollie Tompkins moves her batter onto a cookie sheet to make biscuits in Culinary I. The class learned about different breads and the effect of yeast. To turn their biscuits into strawberry shortcake, junior Wesley Witt and senior Adam Richman add whipped topping and sliced strawberries. Teacher Jennifer Smith taught the class how to make whipped topping with heavy whipping cream and pure vanilla extract to sweeten the bread.

Mollie Tompkins '13



Wesley Witt '14, Adam Richman '13

#DragonNation

With the baby powder under her arms, senior Karsen Kramer anxiously makes her way up to the student section from the main gate of the football stadium. Once there, she and a few other seniors try to plan out a good time to throw up the baby powder.

Concerned that the underclassmen will not wait for the first touchdown to throw the baby powder Kramer, and seniors Emily Scott and Timmy Morissey decide to sift through the crowd and inform the students of the proper timing. **"Emily and I just wanted to make sure everything went as planned and were really nervous it might not turn out,"** Kramer said.

The idea of having a baby powder game came from senior Cassidy Farnsworth whose friend from another school had done it at one of their football games. She thought it was such a sweet idea that she posted a photo of it on the seniors' Facebook page. "We always try to find ideas as seniors in the student section to make the games fun and pump up the players," Scott said. Because of the overwhelming support, the girls decided to make it happen.

Principal Brent Riessen was not too excited about letting them do it; however, he ended up letting them go through with it. With the plan in place and the approval of the principal, the students came to the conclusion that they should have it on Senior Night against Ames to really get the seniors excited. The predication was the game would be a tough battle.

As the football team huddled up at one end of the tunnel, Kramer made her way to the front of the crowd and climbed on top of a trash can ready to let it rain powder. With the muffled sound of the intense music from the video board, the team took off, darting across the field and within seconds all the baby powder filled the sky. "It was one of the best feelings ever," senior Zeyad Alghool said. "The student section gave us so much life!"

It pleased the crowd, too. **"Every student at the game went crazy, screaming and cheering,"** Kramer said. "It took more than four minutes for all the powder to recede which kind of made it hard to breathe." Associate principal Randy Klein walked by and told the whole student section that the outcome was awesome.

"After the game I checked my instragram and literally every other picture I was looking at was of the crowd right after we threw up the baby powder," Kramer said, "But the funny thing about it was that everyone just kept posting the same exact photo." Because it turned out well, students planned to make it a tradition.

"The thing about the student section is it's nothing anyone has to try out for," Scott said. **"Because of that, it gives every student the opportunity to be a part of something bigger, to be apart of #DragonNation."**

Covered in baby powder, seniors Simmone Doswell and Emily Scott cheer enthusiastically at the senior night game against Ames on Oct. 19. The crowd wore pink to promote Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
photo by Anna Lam

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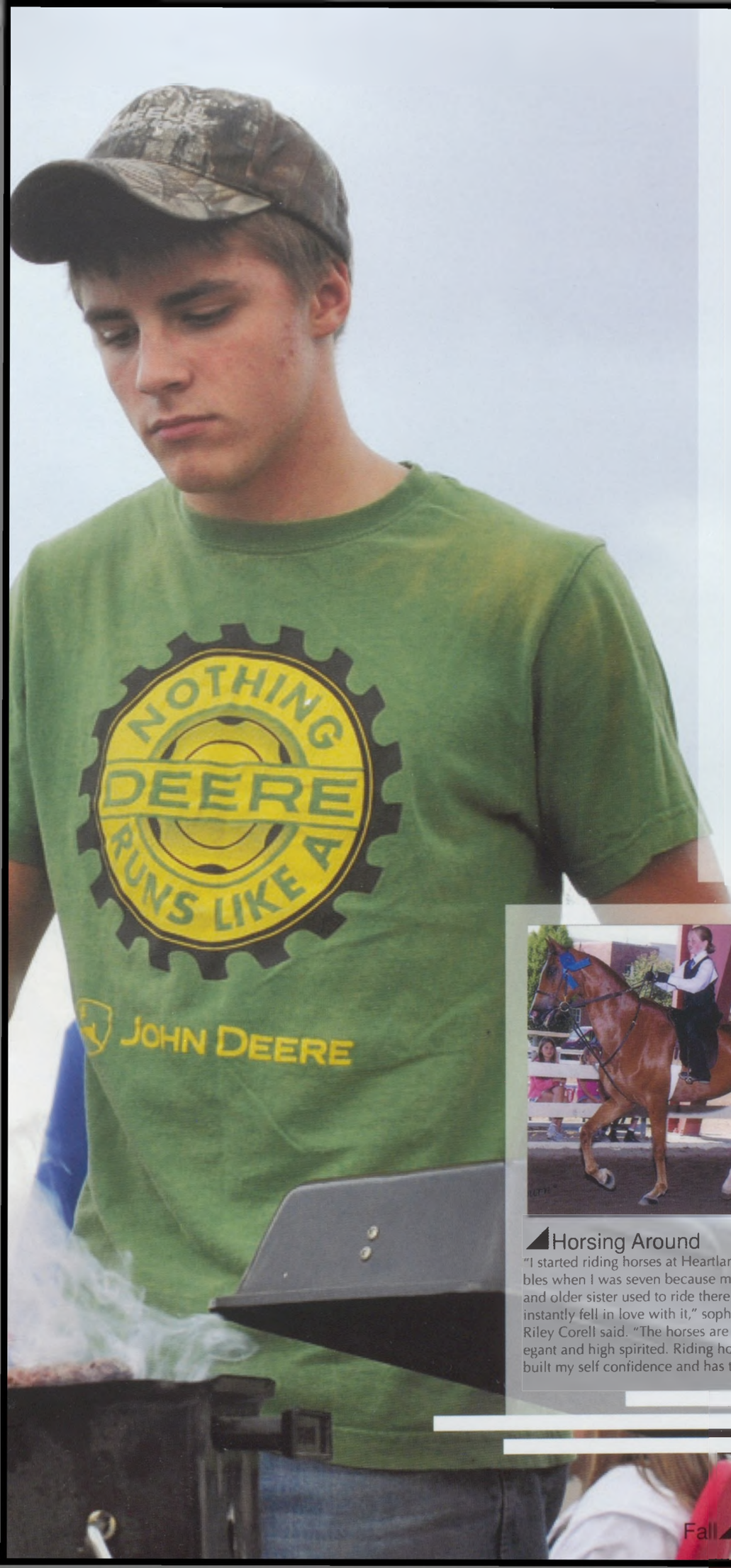


◢**Dominant** *The flames from the grill rise as senior Alex Kaptain flips burgers at the tailgate before the playoff game against Urbandale. Students organized a tailgate before every home game and even made their own flag out of a PVC pipe to bring into the games. photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**1.** *While bowling with their church group, juniors Rachel Walljasper and Callie Alvarez high five one another after bowling a strike. The church was being used for something else, but the group still wanted to get together and hang out so decided to go bowling. photo by Alison Kretzinger*

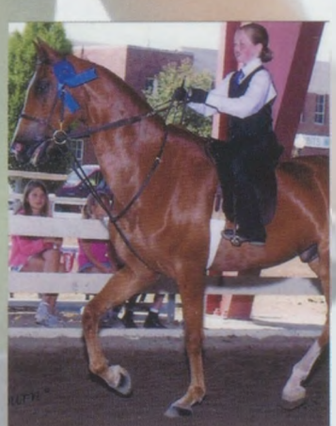
◢**2.** *Junior Brandon Sexton volunteers at the Fall Festival at Horizon. His job was to collect the kids' tickets and then direct them to throw bean bags through the cutouts in the ghosts' mouths. photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**3.** *Before the game on Oct. 24 junior Stanzy Snyder focuses on putting facepaint on junior Blake Singbush's face at the tailgate. The theme of the night was Warpaint Wednesday and many people painted their faces and bodies to show their Dragon pride. photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**4.** *Downtown at the Color Run held Oct. 6, junior Lauren Ward volunteers at the orange station and throws powder at runners passing by. "It took a few showers to get all the orange off of me, and I looked like an extreme fake baker," Ward said. photo by Amanda Jensen*

◢**5.** *Austin Kerr and Michael Hanstad, both juniors, carve pumpkins on an early-out day. Hanstad's initial idea was to carve the University of Maryland's mascot into the pumpkin, but he failed, so instead he ended up carving a face. "It was a fun thing to do right before Halloween with friends," Kerr said. photo by Amanda Jensen*

◢Spread by Amanda Jensen and Katrina Fey



◢Horsing Around

"I started riding horses at Heartland Stables when I was seven because my mom and older sister used to ride there and I instantly fell in love with it," sophomore Riley Corell said. "The horses are so elegant and high spirited. Riding horses has built my self confidence and has taught me to be more independent. I also love all of the new friends I have met through riding horses." Her first lesson was when she rode a pony named Flicka. "I was nervous at first, but after a few minutes became comfortable riding her. Now I feel much more in control. The horses never fail to cheer me up and make my day better."

Wet Side Story

Members of the marching band shivered as they awaited halftime of the last home football game. "We were cowering, drenched and frigid, underneath the visitors' bleachers waiting out the rainstorm," sophomore Senad Besic said.

They also waited for word from director Patrick Kearney about whether they would take to the field.

When Kearney finally returned, the band herded around him in a misshapen circle like a flock of sheep. "We packed together so tightly because it was so cold," Besic said. "Kearney said we were going to play and that we were to sprint down the field as hard as we could to our marching positions." The band rarely ever got a chance to do a run-on entrance, so everyone exploded onto the field, elated.

The performance lasted nine minutes. "It was definitely our best halftime show," senior Cole Jewell said. "All of us were really excited about the run-on."

Early the next day, with no improvement in the weather, the band performed at Waukee in both a day show and a night show. It was the last competitive performance of the season.

They earned a one rating in the day show. "We did pretty well at the day show," junior Riley Deutsch said. "The night show was the big thing, though. That was when it all really mattered."

Instead of cancelling the night show due to bad weather, the organizers moved performance times earlier. "We rounded everyone up at Jordan Creek, got back on the bus and high tailed it to the field" senior Laura Smalley said.

Before taking the field Kearney gave his pre-performance speech. "This may not be the most important thing you do," Kearney said, "But you're doing it now, so why not make it good."

"He told us we were going to do another run-on, like the day before," Deutsch said. "That really pumped us up."

The band bolted to the field as the crowed bellowed in excitement. "We played really well," Jewell said. "The sad thing was the seniors didn't get to storm the field when they announced that we got first on senior night. We just finished the performance and hurried to the bus in the frigid rainstorm."

Waukee

Valleyfest Showdown

Urbandale

Johnston

Iowa City

Favorite Competitions

◢**Dominant** *Senior Joe Dailey does his final pre-performance salute on senior night. The salute was a symbol of the bands' persistence to give their best, no matter what the conditions were.* photo by Tyler Fenton

◢**1.** *Senior Katelyn Lunders and the rest of the Varsity dance team perform to the song "Tattoo" by Taio Cruz. JV coach Ashley Schaubroek choreographed the dance.* photo by Anna Lam

◢**2.** *Enjoying the senior night football game, senior Reid Lefler spirits after a cheer. Lefler sported her senior night gift, a golden bow, and pink accessories for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.* photo by Anna Lam

◢**3.** *During a Photo Club meeting in Daniel Weiss's room, graduate Ena Ajdimovski, speaks to the members of the club. Photo club was started by alumni Nate Ostiguy in 2010.* photo by Clara Carlson

During the fall play, "The Twelfth Night," by William Shakespeare, Seniors Marc Brault, as Sir Toby, and Delany Idleman, as Maria, act out a scene where they plan a scheme against Malvolio. The two were supposedly romantically involved, but mostly went off each other's play on words. "I was pretty much all the time drunk," Brault said. The fez Brault wore in the play helped add to the drunken effect because he could have it tilted to the side as he stumbled around the stage. *photo by Jiahui Huang*

Sarah Lewis '13

Jon Caracci '14

Michaela Davis '15

Laura Sciesznski '14

Michelle Hall '13

◢Spread by Tyler Fenton

The Redemption

"It's redemption time," senior Taylor Slack said as he walked up to the front of the classroom with the rest of his group, seniors Heath Dannen and Jordan Galle.

"Curtains," Slack said, and the improv began.

Galle crouched down onto the floor and "bahed" like a sheep, while Slack presented himself as a blind man yelling out orders to Dannen who played the pirate."Originally the improv was suppose to be about a hunting trip," Slack said. "But at the last minute I thought that it wouldn't work out, so I decided to change it."

In Kelly Thompson's Advanced Speech class, students presented group improvs in order to learn the art of public speaking. Slack and his group put a lot of thought into their improvs but nothing ever worked out the way they planned. **"The improv works out in our heads when we plan it out but it usually goes very bad,"** Dannen said.

All of the group members agreed that miscommunication was the main reason their improvs always went wrong. "The first improv that went wrong was the nonverbal communication improv," Slack said. "We planned too much and I guess I didn't explain things very well."

Toward the end of the improv Slack decided to throw everything away and go on a rant. "Jordan and I had no idea what was going on at that point," Dannen said, **"which was why I practically had to drag him off stage."**

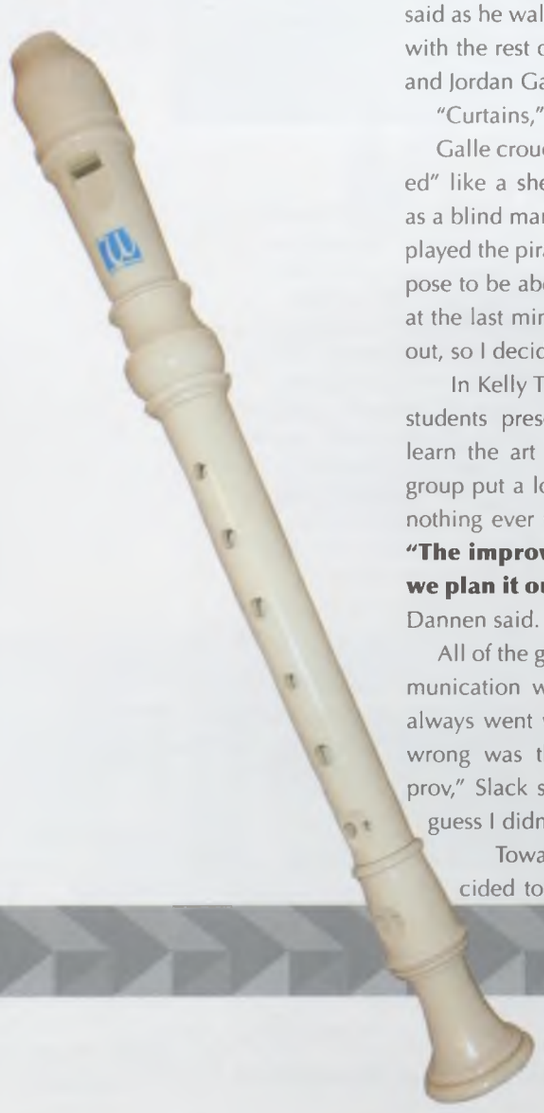
There was a reason why Slack went on a rant. "I was trying to save us points on the assignment by extending our improv," Slack said. "But no one got that so the whole thing was a mess."

The improvs that the group came up with were all planned at the last mintue. "Whatever improv we do I am always the sheep," Galle said. "But that's pretty much all I know." The audience agreed with the unexpected nature of Slack's improv group.

"You never know what to expect from them," senior Cynthia Tice said. "Jordan being a sheep is pretty much expected, but other than that you never know."

"The redemption" became an inside joke for Thompson's fifth hour advance speech class, and even though both Dannen and Galle agreed that redeeming themselves in improv would be nearly impossible, Slack thought otherwise. "We have to come up with our redemption improv one of these days," he said.

Despite the apparent failures the group had, the class still looked forward to their redemption improv. **"Honestly, I think the redemption is going downhill,"** Tice said. "But they still have a chance, and plus they're fun to watch either way."



Music Man

Senior Taylor Slack picked up the recorder and started playing music in the middle of the group's improve. Everyone in the auditorium was at a loss as to what was happening on stage.

◢Spread by Jiahui Huang and Hannah Wiles

◢Dominant. *Seniors Taylor Slack and Jordan Galle improv on stage for their multiple intelligence project. "In the middle of our improv I thought maybe we could do it another day because it was going badly," Slack said. "So I started playing music just for the heck of it." photo by Carly Crist*

◢1. *Senior Fredrika Andreasson works to build a coiling pot during Clay class. "The pot broke the first time I made it," Andreasson said, "but it turned out very well in the end." photo by Hannah Wiles*

◢2. *Standing up in front of the group, sophomore Natalie Larimer gives a presentation on her ILA project. The members of her group took turns presenting and critiquing. photo by Hannah Wiles*

◢3. *Seniors Kayla Dings and Lauren Wilson learn about psychology and counseling during career day. Psychologist Michelle Commes instructed the sudents on a neutral response technique. photo by Hannah Wiles*

◢4 *Practicing their Spanish in class, sophomores Riley Noble, Julian Neely and Jenna Smith wait to give their verbal. Having "compañeros," or partners, allowed students to improve their skills. photo by Hannah Wiles*

◢5. *Sophomores Dinel Alic and Hatidza Sivac work on their world history homework during study hall. Every day, Alic, Nermin Hasancevic (not pictured) and Hatizida gathered together in the library to work. photo by Hannah Wiles*

◢Bottled Up

For biology students, the Ecobottle proved to be one of the hardest projects. Students were surprised at the difficulty of keeping the mini-ecosystem running. "At first our worms drowned themselves," junior Amy Keech said. "We had to open it up a bunch of times." After a month of observing the ecobottles, students dumped the contents outside and recorded what they learned.

Neon Knights

Running and almost tripping across hay bales, barrels, and pools of water is not what most runners expect on a cross country course. But these elements are what attracted several runners to the Nike Heartland Regionals Cross Country Race in Sioux Falls.

The girls cross country team had the chance to go to Minnesota during their season, so the boys vied for another out-of-state race. **"A few of the older runners had gone last year, and it sounded like they just had a blast,"** senior Tyson Wieland said. **"This year the coaches campaigned it a bit more and got a lot of people to go and we all just had a blast."**

Both the girls and boys cross country teams were given the opportunity to go to the race in Sioux Falls. However since both seasons were over, the teams were not able to represent Johnston Schools. So instead, the girls flocked to Scheels and bought patterned Nike running jackets. Some opted for silver, while others were drawn to hot pink.

Since the girls had coordinated their outfits, the varsity boys decided to take on the challenge. The Johnston Dragon's club was created. They all bought neon pink "bro-tanks." A collective decision was made to wear nothing but these pink shirts and skin tight purple shorts during the race which was predicted to be in freezing weather. In addition to all the outfits, enough money was in the budget to rent a charter bus.

The bus ride began with hours upon hours of inspirational movies such as the "Sandlot and Miracle." Games of cross country pictionary started up later that night, inspired by the boredom from that day. **"It started out with just the guys, then all the sudden Jeremy (Caracci, a junior) brought in the all the girls. It ended up being a mass game of cross country pictionary,"** Wieland said.

Once the bus finally stopped, they gathered with other runners for a pre-race pasta dinner . Here, they met Elliot Health who held the Minnestota two-mile record and was training for the Olympics.

Junior Chris Kline and sophomore Cole LaFollette leap over hay bales during the Nike Regionals Cross Country Meet in South Dakota. Other obstacles were pools of water, patches of wood chips, and lots of hills called "whoop-dee-doos."
photo by Ellen Bennet

Early the next morning the girls piled on layers, as the boys squeezed into their shorts and threw on their breezy tanks. Once there, the runners realized this meet was different. The typical high school cross country course is a 5K (approximately a 4K for girls) through the forest and with nothing but grass, dirt and hills. However, in five degree weather, all of the participants ran with other high school students, college students and adults. Men and women both ran a 5K. But the biggest difference was the large amount of obstacles and elements foreign to the runners.

"I liked the hay bales because I could never run hurdles in track, cause I was never good," Weiland said. "So they were just short enough to give me a little hurdle effect."

The JV runners ran in what was called the "Green Race," and the hot pink and silver from the girls, and the neon pink, purple, and goose bumps could be seen from the "Champion Race," which included more than 400 runners.

On the cozy bus ride home, the bus was silent as all were tired from the weekend's events. Reflections and memories filled everyone's heads. **"We got to represent the Johnston community," sophomore Josh Borwick said, "And in the process we had fun with all the obstacles"**

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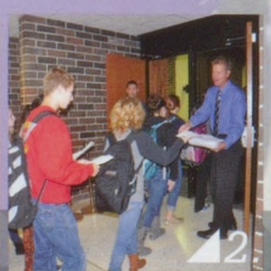
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◢**Dominant.** *Senior Cooper Wilde applies pressure with a cotton ball to prevent any bleeding after getting his blood drawn. Wilde participated in the blood drive because he found it rewarding knowing he had helped somebody. "The only part that hurt was the needle getting stuck," he said. "Everything else was just fine." Eighty-four units of blood were collected from the drive. photo by Bonnie Le Page*

◢**1.** *Junior Deepthi Akella puts together a flower bouquet for a patient at Lutheran Hospital. She volunteered weekly to get silver cord hours. Along with arranging flowers, Akella colored calendars, visited patients, delivered mail and folded gowns. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

◢**2.** *Handing social studies teacher Patrick Hennes their passes, seniors Justin Atterberg and Sara Thimmesch walk into the senior assembly. Students in government and biotech were invited to listen to Ambassador Kenneth Quinn speak about how he got involved with the World Food Prize and how he wants to change the world. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**3.** *Working together with their group, seniors Margaret Standish and Katie Giles sort the cans they collected during the canned food scavenger hunt organized by student council. They were assigned to Green Meadows North and collected about 130 non-perishable food items with teammates Jeff Carley and Laura Smalley. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**4.** *Concentrating, junior Aditi Dinakar tries to decide how to move in her next play of LIFE. She and senior Fatiha Iqbal played with fellow Iowa Youth Congress members during a meeting at the Mariott Hotel. photo by Jiahui Huang*

◢**5.** *Pressing her purple-painted hand down, senior Kaitlin Stitz makes her mark on the class of 2013 senior handprint wall. "I think it's a good thing that we do the handprint wall," Stitz- said. "It's something special for seniors for our last year." photo by Catherine Roby*

◢ *Spread by Catherine Roby and Kelsey Acheson*

◢ Dream House

"In the summer of my freshman year I was recovering from a torn ACL and I couldn't be active," junior Sarah Ross said. "A while ago my great aunt gave me a doll house that was half done." Her grandma thought she would like it because she was in a dollhouse-building phase. "I decided to finish the doll house because I had nothing to do and it was just sitting in my basement. It took me until September to finish it because I had to paint it and cut out wall paper. Now it sits on the floor in my room. When I was little I used to love playing with my doll house so it was fun when I got to build my own."

FLIP Flips

Junior Cassidy Dean places her feet in her bases' hands and quickly composes herself. As junior Brooke Stoll, senior Carly Crist and sophomore Nicky Spear push Dean into the air, her mind begins to race. "Ride it," Dean thinks to herself. When Dean approaches the peak of the throw there is a pull in her stomach. She knows it is time to go "over the bar." With momentum, Dean makes it high enough to go over her imaginary bar before she falls back toward her bases.

In the past, flipping was illegal because it had been considered a dangerous stunt; however, the rule changed. **"We added those in to be competitive with the other squads,"** coach Lexi Shafer said.

A flip stunt involves the flyer doing a front flip once in the air. The stunt is considered dangerous because the flyer is put into an inverted position, leaving the flyer's head and neck vulnerable during a fall.

Shafer made it a point to go over stunting basics during summer practices while the girls were learning their competition routine.

A choreographer taught the team its routine by giving them a stunt set. After the stunt group mastered one set, another set was given to them. Each set challenged the girls to get them in shape for their routine.

"Stunting is all about repetition, just because you hit it once doesn't mean you can hit it again," senior Anna Twickler said. "You have to build up the repetitions, the confidence to do it and the skills."

Half the routine was done by the time school started. However, there were still difficulties. "When it got to the stunts that we couldn't do," Dean said, "we would break up and practice them with our stunt groups." If the stunts still were not hitting, the stunt groups would get together outside of practice in order to polish them up.

Even with all the hard work, things still did not go the team's way during state. Senseless deductions landed them in sixth place after earning the third place score.

Despite their disappointment, the flip stunts boosted the cheer team's difficulty score at state and added a fun challenge.

Junior Kelsey Kramer was satisfied. "I could care less about how we placed," Kramer said. **"I know I put in 100 percent, and there wasn't anything I regret in the routine."**

Oh Yeah

Down To the River

Marching

We Got Spirit

Dragon Rumble

Cheers We Love

◢Dominant. *Junior competition cheerleader Cassidy Dean sticks her stunt at the first home basketball game. That night the girls performed the routine that got them sixth at state.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢1. *At Madrigal, sophomores Andrea Schultz and Sam Wilkinson sing,"Silent Night." The annual show and dinner took place at The Bridge.* photo by Claire Sevenich

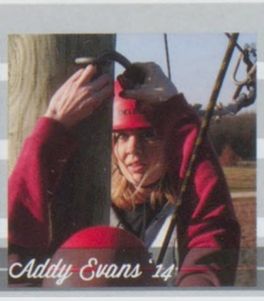
◢2. *Sophomore student council members, Zach Walker and Marcus Miller, organize the food they gathered Nov. 13 "I did this because I know that there are people out there that could really use some help," Walker said. "If I can give up a few hours of my night, and in return impact my community, I would any day."All the food gathered went to the Johnston Food Pantry* photo by Laura Schwartz

◢3. *Senior Bonnie Le Page and junior Bailey Pierotti struggle to figure out the correct directions to the keynote speaker at the National Journalism Convention in San Antonio.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

Leaning forward off the picnic bench, junior Abby Stevens braces herself and puts her trust in her fellow group members. SAIL members participated in a retreat the weekend of Nov. 2-4th. Other group activities included zip-lining, rock climbing, creating a group dance, as well as participating in a candlelight and many more activities. "During SAIL I was able to meet lots of different types of people that I wouldn't usually talk to in school," junior Craig O'Keefe said. "SAIL also let me grow as a leader by being in charge of my group and their activities. My favorite part was making the dance because I loved bonding with my group and overcoming the difficulties of making it from scratch." photo by Laura Schwartz

Kate Tjelstad '14

Olivia Guns '13


Addy Evans '14

Katie Hermanson '13

Ethan Marshall '13

◢Spread by Laura Schwartz and Claire Sevenich

Better Quality

After hiding a camera in his bag, sophomore Alek Luong heads to the library. On purpose, he drops a $5 bill on the ground. The camera tapes the ensuing scene to see if students return the money or if they take the money.

Luong and the students of third and fourth period video production who created Dragon TV strived to make the weekly program better. Most episodes lasted about 10 minutes with students viewing the program during Wednesday advisory.

Luong tried to find new, exciting stories every week. In addition to the undercover money experiment, he hid cameras in different classrooms and left cookies to see how students would react. "I was thinking of shows where people hide their cameras and how they get caught," Luong said. "Since everyone carries a bag, it came to me that they're portable so it'd be a good place to hide the camera."

Senior Spencer Moser tried to interest the audience with rap. "Brock Hoffmann and I pretty much just started planning, then writing some raps and we just go film it, which takes about two hours but we don't do much planning ahead at all," Moser said. The audience responded.

"Last year was boring," junior Audrey Kaus said. "I feel like the people who narrated were monotone. The people this year are exciting which makes it fun to watch."

Part of the reason for the interesting shows may have been passion. "I always really enjoyed using cameras and editing stuff at my house," junior Michael Siebert said, "When I found out they had a class at school, I knew I'd like it."

Production teacher Michael Barta enjoyed watching Dragon TV come to life. "People watch it because of the students I have in class," Barta said. **"Their effort and enthusiasm makes the show worth watching."**

Students felt ownership for their work. Sophomore Hailey Cooper and junior Katrina Fey invented Coop and Kat's Corner, a segment where they talk about music and movies. "Katrina and I were bouncing ideas back and forth and she'd always call me Coop and I called her Kat so that's how we started," Cooper said. "When it comes to making the segment, we have as much control of it as Barta lets us."

Creators of Dragon TV felt they made the show something students love to watch. "I feel like it has changed," senior Raven Wells said. **"We have a great group of students this year who really want to make this good. We're here to entertain and I think we are doing just that."**

High Definition

Video Production acquired new HD cameras to replace their old ones. They also received a new tripod donated to them by Keri Voss who helped out in the video production lab.

Spread by Gabby Ledesma and Puja Sookram

◢Dominant. *Video Production films on their new HD camera another segment for their weekly show, "Dragon TV." Seniors Tyler Smaha and Matt Guyer set up a food eating contest for their series, "Pros vs Joes." From the left is seated, senior Tyler Smaha, graduate Zach Guyer, sophomore Sloane Vander Zwaag, senior Luke Jorgensen, and sophomore Andrew Heuss. Jorgensen won the contest by eating 27 Fazoli's breadsticks in 12 minutes.* photo by Gabby Ledesma

◢1. *Lining up to swing, senior Makayla Mawhinney is helped by her sophomore buddy Kara Garside while playing a game of baseball.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢2. *Working hard on her homework junior Sarah Margolin takes notes and reads her AP Biology book on Cell Signaling.* photo by Swathi Somisetty

◢3. *Sophomores Alek Luong and Nick Hogan work together on a their final project in the class Small Engines. "Figuring out where to put everything (in the engine) was tricky," said Loung.* photo by Gabby Ledesma

◢4. *Junior Kylie Krueger helps her buddy junior Rae Perry with her art project in Peer Art. Peer Art was a new class that focused on giving students with disabilities a chance to express themselves and experience the fun of art.* photo by Puja Sookram

◢5. *Leaning over his work, sophomore Danny Corbin studies how to put together an engine in a class taught by Mitch Eagles.* photo by Gabby Ledesma

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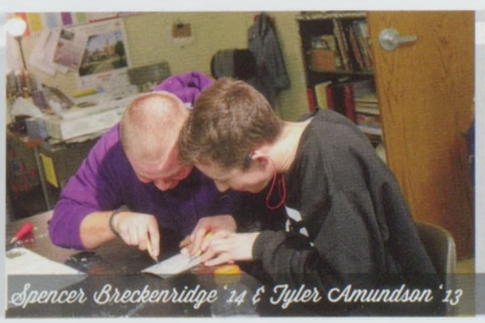
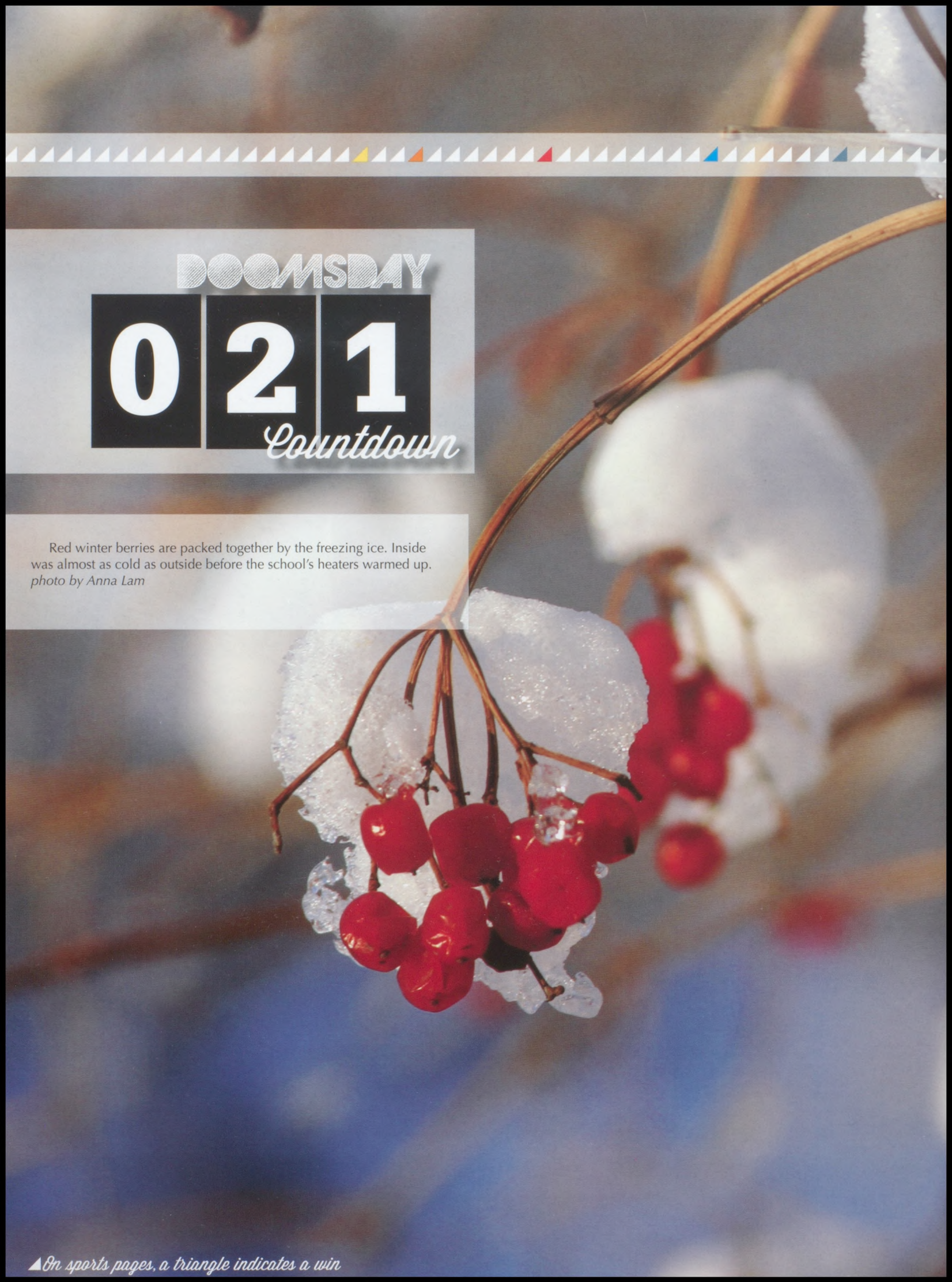
◢Carving Away

Carving out a design onto linoleum, senior Tyler Amundson and junior Spencer Breckenridge use a carving knife to scratch an unique design in their class Essentials of Art. To finish the project the students smeared paint over their carvings, then laid a sheet of paper over the linoleum while using a rolling pin to roll ontop of it to transfer over their design to make a paper print.



Spencer Breckenridge '14 & Tyler Amundson '13

Jillah Leggitt '15 & Kaitlyn Nagel '15



DOOMSDAY 021 Countdown

Red winter berries are packed together by the freezing ice. Inside was almost as cold as outside before the school's heaters warmed up.
photo by Anna Lam

Winter

December. Newspapers, magazines, and televisions were filled with news of a shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school in Connecticut. Locked doors became the solution in our county. Kansas to Wisconsin blizzard conditions took over, and finals got moved to January. Winter break sped by, as it was filled with snowboarding, and skiing at Sleepy Hollow, building snowmen, decorating the house for select holidays, drinking hot chocolate, and watching movies at Carmike Wynnsong Theaters.

January. Ice cracked in D.C. as the Senate and House approve a last minute budget deal, raising taxes from 35% to 39.6% for individuals who make over 400,000 dollars a year, narrowly escaping the fiscal cliff. Climbing at Climb Iowa became a favorite pastime in the short days of the winter. Off season training brought us closer as we packed into the weight room and fogged up the windows with perseverance and drive to do well in the coming spring.

February. Red, white, and pink petals littered the hallways as secret admirers and best friends sent out carnations for Valentine's Day, just after the news of Pope Benedict XVI's resignment hit newspapers and magazines

Family Video and Redbox got their use as we rented movies like "Argo", "Sinister", "Here Comes the Boom", and "Skyfall" and bought packets of popcorn to keep us entertained.

◢*Des Moines North* **63-44,** *Ankeny* **40-47,** *Waukee* **36-53,** ◢*Urbandale* **68-57,** *Ames* **52-64,** *Valley* **62-66,** *Dowling Catholic* **58-60,** *Fort Dodge* **31-46,** ◢*SE Polk* **47-43,** *Urbandale* **49-56,** *Hoover* **28-43, 47-30,** *Roosevelt* **41-52**

CLOSE CALLS

After rebounding the ball, junior Jay Knuth glanced at the clock as he sprinted down the court. Five seconds left. Dowling Catholic had only a few points' lead. At the three point line, Knuth squared, jumped up, and shot the ball toward the basket. As the ball passed through the net, the deafening sound of the buzzer resonated through the gym. Knuth had pushed the game into overtime.

A close game led up to this climax. The team started out strong, and was a few points ahead at halftime. Third quarter did not go as smoothly. "They made a run and took the lead," Knuth said. "They started playing better than we were playing and just kept chipping away at our lead."

Neither team had a huge advantage. When Dowling Catholic scored, the team came right back with a basket.

When the game went to double overtime the guys were exhausted. "Everyone's usually supportive and cheering each other on and picking each other up, like in huddles," Knuth said. **"It also kind of helps that adrenaline kicks in, so you're not just completely dead."**

The team's usual point guard, sophomore Nick Neumann, was out because of a heart condition called athlete's heart. The team struggled to get used to junior Nick Stitzell as the substitute point guard.

But even with Knuth's miraculous shot in the final quarter of regulation, and another tied score in overtime, the team lost in double overtime.

A few weeks later, the team played Valley. The game mirrored the Dowling Catholic game. Throughout the entire length of regulation, both teams scored back and forth. Fourth quarter ended in a tie. Both teams fought to gain the lead in overtime. To the shock of the team and its fans, the boys made it to double overtime for the second time that season.

Physically and mentally exhausted, the players tried to focus. It's kind of like a new game all over again," senior Blake Miller said. **"You have to forget about what's happened and worry about winning the overtimes."**

Valley pulled ahead, but the team managed to keep up. It all came down to the last play of the game. Valley inbounded the ball to senior DJ Daphne, who passed it to senior Tanner Hinkle. Hinkle drove the ball to the basket and scored with two seconds left.

One point behind, in a last-ditch effort, Knuth shot a rebounded ball. When he jumped up, he ran into someone else, they both fell, and the game ended.

Even playing the two highest-ranked teams in the CIML-CIC-Western conference, the team stayed with it. **"Going into double overtime twice proved that we could play with anyone if we play to the best of our ability,"** Miller said, **"cause we were expected to get killed."**

GOAL: GIVE ALL I COULD

"I did everything I could in games, during practice and off the court to make our team more successful. I pushed myself and my teammates to always play at their best."

-Nick Stitzell '14

GOAL: MAKE IT TO STATE

"Our coach at the beginning of the season made it very clear we had what it took as players. We really believed that. He kept reminding us of the potential we had."

-Luke Jorgensen '13

GOAL: WIN AS MANY GAMES AS POSSIBLE

"We wanted to represent Cameron Carico. We wanted to win games in his honor and his memory. Everyone on the team felt the same way."

- Regen Siems '15

◢Mason City **70-48,** ◢Des Moines Lincoln **55-35,** Ankeny **43-50,** ◢Marshalltown **62-43,** ◢Indianola **55-40,** ◢Dowling Catholic **49-40,** Roosevelt **46-56,** Valley **60-61,** S.E.P. **32-39,** ◢Des Moines East **62-56,** ◢Fort Dodge

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◢**Dominant**. *Junior Mike Mahanna attempts to shoot over Marshalltown's defense. Mahanna made 115 points during the season, along with 59 rebounds, 29 assists and 19 blocks. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**1.** *To start off the Hoover game, junior Jay Knuth leaps toward the airborn ball with an outstreched arm. "Doing the tip off is all about timing, and anticipating," Knuth said. "We knew Hoover was really athletic. We were a bigger team, but they were a lot faster so we knew we had to limit them by boxing out." photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**2.** *Racing down the court after a rebound, sophomore Jordan Binnie looks for an open teammate while evading DSM North's defense. Binnie played for both varsity and JV."I just loved going back and forth and playing," Binnie said. "It was fun, and it was a good experience." photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**3.** *Sophomore Reid Sinnett shoots the ball over Dowling Catholic's JV defense. "We had a good season," Sinnett said. "My favorite memory is beating Urbandale at home. We had a good crowd and we played really well." photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**4.** *Blake Miller, a senior, tries to keep the ball away from senior Peter Nixon during the first half of the Valley game. Miller made 53 rebounds and nine steals for the season. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢*Spread by Clara Carlson and Kelsey Acheson*

Xavier **33-46,** ◢*North* **59-23,** *Ankeny* **39-51,** *Waukee* **54-74,** ◢*Urbandale* **38-31,** *Ames* **43-47,** *Valley* **58-71, 57-27,** *Indianola* **26-43,** *Dowling Catholic* **28-58,** *S.E.P.* **36-71,** ◢*Urbandale* **36-32,** ◢*Hoover* **46-34,**

PLAY BY PLAY

Cutting to the top of the lane, senior Steph Wilkinson prepares to receive a pass from freshman point guard Shayna Stubbs. Wilkinson dribbles the ball towards the basket and passes it backwards to senior Erin Yocum. Instead of missing the pass from Wilkinson like many times before, Yocum catches the ball and goes in for the layup. Finally, after months of practice, the girls nailed the play.

"Missouri" was not the only play the team practiced. In fact, over 60 others were introduced. The girls' new coach, Chad Jilek, put together a collection of 63 plays. Jilek wanted a way for them to become familiar with his style. "Using playbooks for the girls was something I wanted to do this year because I was asking the girls to learn a number of new things," Jilek said.

Jilek printed out all of the plays and passed them out in stacks to the players at the beginning of the season. The front page listed all the plays, most named after colleges. There were also defensive plays which added 10 more sequences to learn. All of the girls put their playbooks together in binders to keep them organized.

To baby-step the girls, the coaches introduced a few similar versions of the plays at summer camp. **"It took us awhile to get used to the new sets we wanted to run,"** Jilek said.

The idea of memorizing 60 plus plays daunted the girls. "It was a little intimidating seeing all the plays," senior Brenna Robinson said. "**We didn't understand what all the lines meant because there were zigzags, dashes, and lines. (It) was a little overwhelming thinking we had to know every single one.**"

To their relief, they were not required to know every play like the back of their hand. "There were certain ones we only talked about and never really played," senior Kim Hughes said. "There were probably a main ten. Motion, Swing, Missouri, Kansas, and Ohio were some."

In practice, the team used plays specific to their current situation. Sometimes they worked on plays they wanted to run against the upcoming opponent. Other times they tried to make sure they were not making the same mistakes. **"(Coach Jilek) makes sure to focus on all aspects of the game,"** junior Bri Handel said. "If we had a bad game and had crappy defense, we would probably work on that the next day."

Missouri was one of the plays the team had the most trouble with. "We ran it a lot without pressure in practice," Yocum said, "so when we would get into the game and have to do it with a lot of pressure, it was harder to execute."

They finally executed the play correctly in the Roosevelt game near the end of the season. "I think our team would do better with a few plays, instead of lots of plays," Hughes said. "It was kind of overwhelming."

Jilek said after the introduction of the plays, there would be less to learn next season.

GOAL: BE A TEAM
"Being a captain, I wanted basketball to be something my teammates liked to show up to. I wanted it to be a fun environment, but still take it seriously."

-Kelsi Larsen '13

GOAL: TO WIN MORE GAMES THAN LAST SEASON
"We improved by shooting better and working hard every day at practice. I tried to increase my free throw percentage and defense throughout the season."

-Sara Knee '14

GOAL: BECOME AN OFFENSIVE THREAT
"I tried to improve my shot and ball handling skills. Throughout the year, my teammates really helped me improve in these areas."

-Shayna Stubbs '16

Mason City **49-85,** ◢Fort Dodge **63-35,** East **35-55,** ◢Abraham Lincoln **59-36,** Ankeny **35-45,** ◢Marshalltown **Dowling Catholic 20-54,** ◢Roosevelt **49-46,** ◢Valley **42-59,** ◢Waukee **32-52**

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◢**Dominant**. *Steph Wilkinson, senior, drives toward the basket while a S.E. Polk player defends. Wilkinson was the leading player for the season with 291 points, 155 rebounds, and 12 three-pointers.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢**1.** *Looking to pass to a teammate, Rachel Hinders, a freshman, tries to avoid S.E. Polk's defense. Hinders scored 238 points for the season, 64 points from free throws alone, along with 16 blocks, the second highest on the team.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**2.** *Sophomore Keely Larkin has the basket in sight as she shoots the ball during the Valley game. "It was really fun being able to play with all of the seniors this year," Larkin said. "They really taught me a lot about the game and little things from their experiences over the years."* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**3.** *During the game against Marshalltown, junior Bri Handel dribbles the ball toward the hoop. "I enjoyed playing this season, and I'm excited for next year," Handel said. "But I'm really going to miss all our senior girls."* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**4.** *Emily Lehman, a sophomore, evades her opponent during the JV game against S.E. Polk. Lehman made 25 assists and 29 steals during the season.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢Spread by Kelsey Acheson and Clara Carlson

◢*Ankeny* **120-50**, ◢*SE Polk* **109-61**, ◢*Lincoln* **130-36**, ◢*Waukee* **111-59**, ◢*Ames* **104-66**, ◢*Mason City* **63-31**, ◢*Valley* **98-72**, *Districts* **2nd**, *State* **4th**

OUTDIVE OUR

Raising her fist, boys' swimming coach Shari Walling gave the team a pep talk. **"Go out there, give it your all,"** Walling said. **"Everything you've done has brought you to this moment. This is yours, take it."**

As Walling talked, the four boys swimming the 400 relay at state — seniors Tyler Cracraft and Tyson Wieland, junior Alex Clark, and Urbandale senior Reid Molander — listened anxiously. "There is no question we had to race to place," Walling said. "I chose to stack the 400 so if we needed points in the end we would have all our top swimmers in that event."

Being the last race, it can determine what place each team gets. "That's always the most intense one," Clark said. "That's usually when everyone cheers and it just gets really intense."

On the sidelines, junior John Koopal and the rest of the team watched while the 400 relay prepared to swim. **"The intensity at one of the championship meets when it comes down to a 400 is just outrageous,"** Koopal said.

All of the swimmers' hard work led up to this race. "The saying goes that the practices are 90% physical and 10% mental because you just gotta zone out, then the meets are super intense," Koopal said. "It's 90% mental and 10% physical (at state) because you've done all your training during the season."

Going into the relay, Johnston was beating Dowling Catholic 129-111. Cracraft started the race and finished his leg in fourth place. Clark took his turn. "Before the race you just get super nervous and you have to kind of put that behind you," Clark said. "You can't let that stop you from racing your fastest." He swam his first 50 meters in 22 seconds, and was well ahead of the pack in first place. **"While I'm swimming, I will kinda talk to myself in a way and just push myself to go faster and harder and pump myself up,"** Clark said.

Wieland started the third leg. Koopal watched eagerly with the rest of the team. "He goes and it looks like the first half of the race he's holding it and he's not letting anybody catch up to him," Koopal said. But as the race goes on, other teams start to catch up. "The other people just took off, but Tyson went great," Koopal said. Wieland ended up in sixth place for his leg.

Swimming as anchor, Molander dove into the pool. "It's come down to this, he just fights for it," Koopal said. "He goes blisteringly fast, but unfortunately, it's just not enough." Molander swam his 100 meters in 47 seconds, and the relay came in seventh. Dowling Catholic came in first.

Teamwise, Dowling Catholic earned third place, four points behind. We came in fourth. Muscatine won and Dubuque Senior took second. Had the relay came in sixth place, the team would have gotten third. "We had our best time in that relay so we can't really complain," Clark said. The team swam in a time of 3:13.25.

"I am very proud of my team," Walling said. "Their drive, work ethic, efforts and dedication to swimming and Johnston are examples of what I want each of my teams to do in the future. They all represented JHS to the best of their abilities throughout the season."

GOAL: DROP TIME

"I wanted to focus on getting really good time drops on my 100 yard butterfly and 200 yard individual medley. As the result of my training, I ended up dropping six seconds off my fly and 17 off my individual medley."

-Nicholas Collison '12

GOAL: EARN A LETTER

"Essentially I tried to zone out before each race and then just try to calm myself down and focus once I got in the water. Focus on my pace and my flip turns."

-Nathan Grimes '14

GOAL: BE THE BEST

"We spent countless hours training so that we could perform to the best of our abilities and be first in the state, but most importantly we wanted to beat Dowling."

-Andrew Schwaderer '13

Dowling Catholic **80-90**, ◢Ames Invitational **1st**, ◢Mercer Invitational **1st**, ◢Johnston Invitational **1st**, CIML Conference **2nd**,

◢**Dominant**. *Urbandale freshmen Taylor Donner swims for Johnston in the 200 free medley. "I was glad to be able to have the chance to swim with the amazing swimmers from Johnston," Donner said.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**1.** *Freshman Seth Schieffer swims breaststroke during the 200 yard individual medley. "The pool is like my second home and my coaches are like my third parents," Schieffer said.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢**2.** *Senior Hayden Woods pushes off the block at the sound of the buzzer for the 100 yard backstroke during the Waukee meet. The best time Wood had for the event was 58.40 "I close my eyes before the start to help me focus in and explode off the block," Woods said.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**3.** *Justin Winnett, a junior, comes up for a breath during the varsity districts for the 100 yard breaststroke. Winnett had the best times of the season for both the 100 yard breaststroke with a 57.36 and the 200 yard individual medley with a 1:57.21.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**4.** *During the Lincoln meet junior Carter Mehls pushes through the water to place third for the 100 yard butterfly. Mehls had a time of 1:02.4 in the Lincoln meet, but his best time for the event was 59.37. "After doing the 100 fly, I'm just glad it's over," Mehls said.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢*Spread by Clara Carlson and Megan Buckallew*

S.E. Polk **3-60**, ◢Fort Dodge **36-33**, ◢Waukee **40-27**, Mason City **28-38**, ◢North Hoover **73-6**, ◢Norwalk **54-16**, ◢East Marshall **43-20**, Ames **33-36**

WRESTLING

The spotlight hanging from the small gym in Urbandale High School lit up the darkness as the final wrestler of the night, senior Connor Jacobson, walked onto the mat and faced Urbandale's Jake Heinrich. **"Giving in just wasn't an option that night,"** Jacobson said. **"I wasn't going to let him win and I didn't."** Johnston won the meet 39-27.

The match helped define the season. "We had guys stepping up and filling varsity spots that just performed well," senior Jake Randall said. "The win really helped push us through to districts."

The team finished with a 10-5 record during the regular season. "I don't remember the last time our record has been that good," Randall said. **"I don't even think we've had a winning season since I've been here."**

Districts proved to be a success for the team. "The district meet went way better than districts in the past," sophomore Travis Price said. "Jon Dolan (sophomore) and Logan (Walkup) had huge upsets during districts." Four members moved on to the state tournament.

At the state tournamnet between Feb. 14th and 16th, sophomore Henry Pohlmeyer earned first place in the 106 lbs weight class, Walkup finished in second place in the 135 lbs weight class, Price placed sixth in the 113 lbs weight class and senior Zack Robinson competed in the 145 lbs class.

The last time a Johnston wrestler won a state championship was 1993's Brad Beamen in the 160 lbs weight class. The last time the school had two wrestlers in the finals was 1972's Dave Fox, who placed first in the 167 lbs weight class, and Ed Herman, who placed first in the 155 lbs weight class. "I think the most important thing for preparing was just to stay in our normal routine; warm-up, stretch, relax," Walkup said.

Walkup battled Tim Miklus from S.E. Polk in the finals, losing 11-5. **"It felt great to get second,"** Walkup said. **"There's still a bit of a nagging feeling of being so close but not winning state."** Walkup finished 3-1 in the tournament.

As wrestlers, cutting weight was crucial for the tournament. Pohlmeyer cut weight the day of finals. **"I weighed in at 109.9 lbs for the finals in the morning,"** Pohlmeyer said. **"The weight I had to meet was 110 lbs, so I had all day to recover from the weight I had cut."**

On the day of the tournament, Pohlmeyer defeated Bettendorf's Jake Schwarm in a 6-1 decision to take the championship. "I treated the state meet like any other meet," Pohlmeyer said. "I tried not to be arrogant and when I finished one move all that would go through my mind was what I'd do for the next."

Winning the battle was an honor for Pohlmeyer. "I'm taking it as a learning experience, and hopefully I can use what I learned in the future," Pohlmeyer said. "I want to be able to win state for my junior and senior season."

GOAL: MAKE IT TO STATE

"Making state was my season goal. I didn't quite make it there, but I got close. I was beaten out at districts by Cole Baker from Dallas Center-Grimes."

-Dakota Jackson '13

GOAL: MAKE VARSITY

"I wanted to be a part of the varsity line up and then letter. I pushed myself really hard because I was wrestling 182 lbs. but I only weighed 170 lbs."

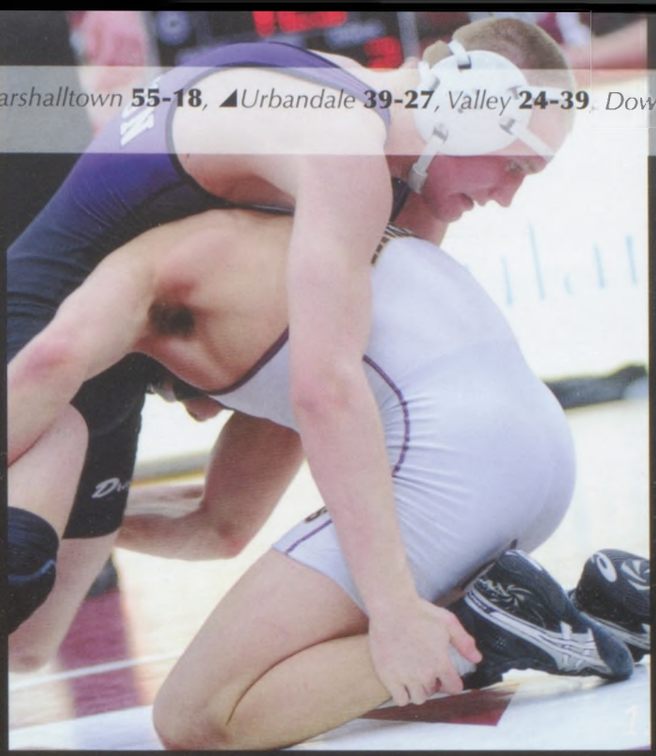
-Jon Dolan '15

GOAL: HAVE EVEN RECORD

"I wanted to have a record of over .500, which is even. I've never done it before and doing that was awesome."

-Brady Harper '15

◢Albia **42-34**, ◢North Polk **69-4**, ◢Marshalltown **55-18**, ◢Urbandale **39-27**, Valley **24-39**, Dowling Catholic **21-48**, ◢CBLC **45-24**,



◢**Dominant**. *Preparing to pounce, senior Sam Schade readies himself for a hard shot in. "I wrestled two weight classes up that day," Schade said. "I beat the Valley guy 7-2, which was awesome." photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**1.** *Senior Jake Randall defends from a shot dealt by Ankeny wrestler Grant Knowler at the district meet. Randall lost the match 5-3. photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢**2.** *Wrestling in the second day of the state tournament, sophomore Henry Pohlmeyer cradles Waterloo's Kyler Lowe. "I wrestled against [junior] Chase Linn, from Dubuque Senior, in the semifinals and he was the higher seed. I pinned him with a 3/4 nelson." photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢**3.** *Senior Zack Robinson grapples Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson's Charles Weaver at the state meet. "I dislocated my knee and was out for two weeks this season," Robinson said. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**4.** *Beginning to apply a half nelson, sophomore Travis Price closes his grip on Gunner Jordanson of S.E. Polk. "He [Jordanson] was a lot taller than me," Price said. "I had to pull his arm up a lot further because of that." photo by Tyler Fenton*

◢*Spread by Tyler Fenton*

◢*Hoover* **2821-2136**, *Waukee/Fort Dodge* **2511-2611-2429**, ◢*Roosevelt* **2946-2847**, ◢*Ankeny* **3095-2869**, ◢*Valley* **3094-2879**, *State* Record 8-1

IN ACTION

It was just like any other game that senior Cody Erickson had bowled, except for the fact that he was on a roll. Erickson usually started his games will a handfull of strikes; however, he had eight strikes so far, and the thought of bowling a perfect game was slowly edging itself into his mind. Quickly, Erickson pushed that thought away and refocused on the pins.

History was made that day. Cody Erickson would prove himself to be one of four other high school bowlers in the state to bowl a 300 during the season.

Bowlers constantly think about the changing conditions. Dry spots form on the lane as a result of the ball picking up oil as it rolls over it. Bowlers must learn to switch balls when one becomes too oily.

"What I've noticed about Cody is that he makes better adjustments than anybody," coach Mike Cook said. **"He knows how to move up three inches, move over two inches, change balls; he does that better than anyone I've seen in awhile, especially at this level."**

The first time a 300 was ever scored in Johnston, it was a team effort during a Baker's game in 2010. Erickson, however, would be the first individual to score a 300.

Erickson had bowled three previous perfect games. His first 300 was bowled with friends while the second and third games occurred during a league and team practice. Bowling a perfect game in this setting meant something completely different for Erickson.

"Bowling for fun, I wasn't that nervous," Erickson said, "but having it mean something in a high school meet is, I think, why it was more nerve-wracking than the other [300's]."

Erickson's fourth 300 happened during the Ankeny vs. Johnston meet at Plaza Lanes. The meet gave Erickson a home crowd advantage as well as the "home field" advantage.

"His body language, how he was carrying himself, how smooth he was hitting his mark every time," Cook said. **"He just got in the zone like a basketball shooter can't miss. Cody was in that zone. He was going to be good that day, you could tell..."**

The rumor of someone on their way to a 300 made its way through the alley and, in response to this news, the crowd quickly quieted down, growing anxious as the game came to a close.

"People in the crowd, I'd say, were more excited just to witness one," brother Jared Erickson, freshman, said. "But us, other people on the bowling team, know that he's capable of it."

Completing the last frame Cody brought up his arm pumping his fist, celebrating his triumph.

"Quite a few people came up to him afterwards and congratulated him," Jared said. **"He shakes their hand and doesn't say anything about it when we leave. He acts like it isn't much but he knows it is."**

GOAL: BOWL HIGHER THAN 175

"When I went out for tryouts I wasn't expecting much because I didn't really bowl, but then when I made the team my goal was to shoot higher than 175 on a round and I did. I bowled a 207."

-Luke Davis '15

GOAL: GET AN AVERAGE SCORE OF 130

"My goal was to just learn what I could do better and to get an average of about 130. I didn't get it, but I was slowly getting there."

-Andrew Evans '13

GOAL: HAVE A GOOD TIME

"My goal was to make our team more fun and to have a good time. I didn't bowl that much in meets, but just bowling with everybody made the experience worth it."

-Will Hyde '13

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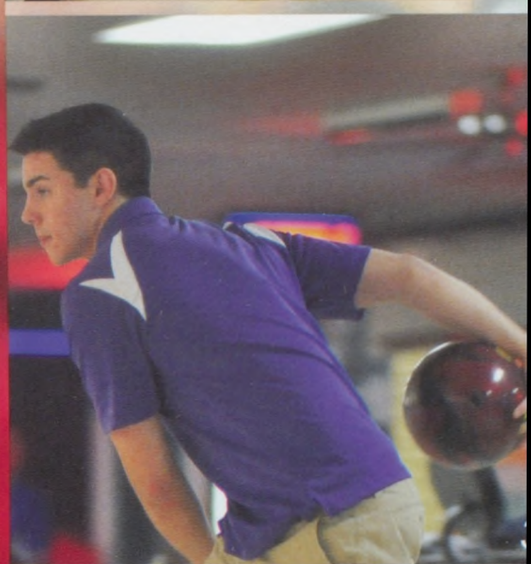


Dominant. *Eyeing the bowling pins, senior Cody Erickson preps himself at the substate qualifier. Erickson ended the season with a personal best and perfect score of 300. photo by Hannah Van Zee*

1. *As the pins tumble, sophomore Levi Clark manages to bowl a strike."I've only been bowling for three years, and this will be my first year going to state, so I'm super excited," Clark said. photo by Kate Allender*

2. *Sophomore Sam Hazelwood steps toward the lane, grasping his bowling ball with two hands. "I am the only member of the team to use a two-handed style, something which is becoming more common on the national and international levels of bowling," Hazelwood said. photo by Laura Schwartz*

3. *Clutching his bowling ball, senior Tyler Britton prepares to hurl it down the lane. "It was my first year bowling, so I didn't really have a technique that I used," Britton said. photo by Clara Carlson*

4. *Swinging the ball behind him, senior Anthony Denny concentrates on getting it to glide smoothly toward the pins. Denny's highest score of the season was a 277. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢Spread by Claire Severich and Hannah Van Zee

◢*Hoover* **2304-1323**, *Waukee/Fort Dodge* **2202-2263-2223**, ◢*Urbandale* **2318-2270**, *Southeast Polk* **2198-2518**, ◢*Roosevelt Catholic* **2504-2025**. ◢*Marshalltown* **2592-2155**, ◢*Conference:* **2344**, ◢*Substate:* **2468**

At the beginning of the meet, junior Olivia Jenkins prepared herself for her frame. First to bowl for the team, she faced her opponent from Dowling Catholic. Jenkins took a deep breath, three steps, swung her arm back, and released. Under the watchful eyes of Jenkins and her teammates, ten pins fell. **"I was nervous to start it off, but after that happened and each person got strike after strike,"** Jenkins said, **"it became incresingly exciting for us and the spectators to watch."**

The girls cheered. Freshman Rosie McAninch was up. Once again, the team got a strike. For the third pin, freshman Loyal Ulm bowled a strike as well. Motivated by their teammates, senior Lauren Ulm and sophomore Kelli Bormann each added strikes to this streak. It was only at the beginning of their game, and the team had already gotten five strikes in a row.

A streak like this would mean a great deal to any bowler, but the team was especially excited. At the beginning of their season, Lauren Ulm and Loyal Ulm came up with a goal of 180 for the team to bowl during the season, and the team agreed. They wanted something that was attainable yet still something each of the players would have to work for. It was clear at this point that they were definitely going to reach their goal.

The girls were thrilled; they were so close to the goal they had been working on all season. After this streak, they kept bowling strikes and spares frame after frame. **"Since we realized we were going to hit that goal, that kept us going the whole time,"** Lauren Ulm said. **"You could actually see really early everyone being like 'guys, it's going to happen.'"**

They were right, and the team ended with a score of 235. One player who stood out and contributed to this score in particular was Bormann, who bowled three strikes in a row at the end of the game. This is referred to as a turkey. **"I ended the game with this, so it was really nice to end on a high note. I think it gave us more confidence to do just as well or even better later on,"** Bormann said.

Results like this did not come easily to the girls. They spent plenty of time at Plaza Lanes bettering their game and technique. Not only did they attend the standard two practices a week, but some players came in for practice on Saturdays.

Because of their practice, experience and motivation from their high score during this game, the team continued to well exceed its original goal for the rest of the season. To give themselves a bigger challenge, the team ended up changing its goal from 180 to 200.

This game proved that the team reaching its goal was not the finish line but a beginning to a rewarding season. **"We peaked towards the end of the season because, once we did that well, we knew we could do it again, and we did,"** Lauren Ulm said.

GOAL: SUPPORT MY TEAM

"I hit my own goals for the season early on, so I focused on helping the other girls, too. We all really encouraged each other, and we'd all go to Orange Leaf when someone reached their goal."

-Kathryn Richardson '13

GOAL: GET OVER 100

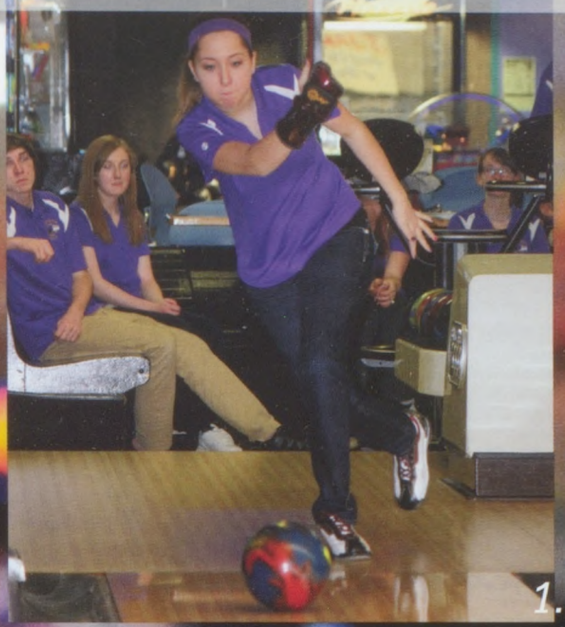
"I was thrilled when my score got over 100. I really had to learn how to handle my curving bowling ball."

-Tara Morris '16

GOAL: ALWAYS IMPROVE

"Every game, I would always try to beat my last score so I could beat my personal best. We'd also always support one another with reaching our goals."

-Hayley Signs '16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◢**Dominant**. *Getting focused, freshman Caroline Aldrich prepares to bowl. "My favorite part was probaby getting to hang out with my friends and have competitions with them to see who coud get the best score, or improve the most," Aldrich said. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**1**. *Freshman Rosie McAninch releases the ball during her pre-conference practice. McAninch's best score this season was 186. photo by Adelias Turnadizc*

◢**2.** *Sophomore Kelli Bormann anticipates the release of her bowling ball. "I do bowling because it is a sport that I really love and enjoy playing it," Bormann said. "Also, you get to meet a lot of new people through it." photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**3.** *With the ball spinning out of her grasp, freshman Loyal Ulm hurls the ball down the lane. Ulm's goal was to stay on varsity. "I was originally on JV but moved up," Ulm said. "In order to do this I had to maintain an average of about 130, which was interesting, considering this was my first year bowling ever." photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**4.** *Junior Oliva Jenkins lunges her ball down the lane during a practice. The bowling team practiced every Tuesday and Thursday during the season. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢*Spread by Laura Schwartz and Adelisa Turnadzic*

Snow-Less Sledding

With only the illumination of the street lights, junior Addy Evans and 12 of her friends scurried across the busy road near the state capitol building in downtown Des Moines. Wrapped in their arms, each totes a block of ice bought at Dahl's. Once across the street, they made their way up the enormous hill. At the top of the hill each member of the group dipped his or her block in a cooler of water junior Jordan Kleinschmidt hauled up the hill so they could make it slick down the hill. Next they placed the blocks on the grass, laid a towel on top and sat down. Three, two, one, they pushed off and down the hill they slide.

Evans called up some friends to see if they would be willing to accompany her. **"I didn't know what ice-blocking was at the time and she didn't tell me until I got there,"** junior Austin Kerr said.

A nice cold blizzard usually kicks off the winter season, but not this year. However when December rolled around there was not a sight of snow. The last thing on anybody's mind was to go sledding.

Except Junior Addy Evans. **"I wanted to go sledding at Sleepy Hollow but it was too warm,"** Evans said. **"So I decided to go ice blocking instead."**

Evans has had a long tradition of ice blocking. "My youth group at church grew up going ice blocking, but I don't think any one else had ever heard of it," Evans said. "You take a folded up towel and put that on top of the ice block, sit on that and slide down."

The group had trouble picking the perfect hill to sled but after an hour of brainstorming they finally came up with the perfect spot. They decided to take their sledding to the Capitol. "It was a long hill," Kleinschmiidt said."It took about twenty seconds to go downhill."

Anxiously the group gripped their towel-covered ice blocks before they made their way down the hill. One. Two. Three! Down they went with a trail following close behind. **"Your arms were out to the side and your legs were up in the air trying to balance yourself,"** junior Jordan Kleinschmidt said.

Sledding on a block of ice, junior Addy Evans falls to her knees. Evans and a couple of her friends wanted to go sledding on December 8th, but there wasn't any snow yet. Trying to think up a way to go sledding, Evans and her friends bought blocks of ice and went to the Capital to go ice blocking. photo by Laura Schwartz

The Des Moines police grew a little suspicious and decided to take a look at the sledders. "They came by the first time we went down, and were suspicious because there had been some vandalism in the area," Evans said.

The group had just started their sledding experience and had no intentions of wanting to leave anytime soon. **"I was hoping that they weren't going to make us leave though because we had just got there,"** Kerr said.

The group had an amazing time sledding even though they were lacking the snow. "We were making trains and stuff with the ice blocks," Evans said.

The group walked away with grass stained butts, damp clothes, and bruises from head to toe. It was the end to their ice-blocking outing. "If I were to go again I think I would try a lot more things like not just sitting on a block and going down," Kleinschmidt said. "I would try different techniques like on my stomach."

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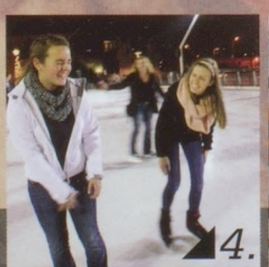
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◢**Dominant.** *In a trance, junior Austin Kerr gets ready to release one of four paper lanterns into the dark sky with his friends for junior Addy Evans' birthday. Kerr and his friends' first lantern accidentally got caught in a tree and they were afraid it was going to either catch the tree on fire or fall on top of the car below. Fortunately it didn't cause any harm and they continued lighting the other three.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**1.** *Spreading the frosting, junior Ellie Wallace decorates Christmas sugar cookies. "The funny thing about it was that we were decorating the cookies after Christmas and they were stale and hard so we were literally just decorating the cookies for fun even though we ate some after because they looked so good," Wallace said.* photo by Katrina Fey

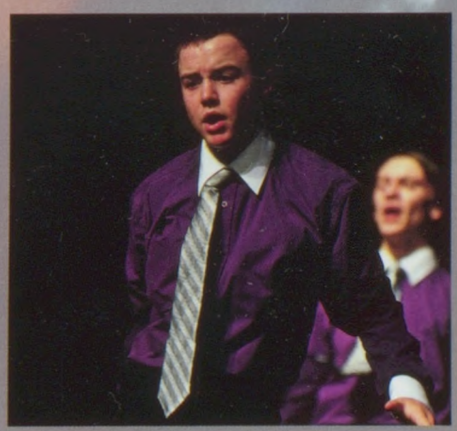
◢**2.** *Showered with snow, juniors Sarah Ross and Zainab Tanveer scream at the top of their lungs while sledding down the hill. They needed something to do for an afternoon duing winter break so they got together their hats and mittens and headed to Metro Ice Skating Facility to go sledding.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**3.** *Sophomore Shannon Hartle touches up her bun before her performance at the Nutcracker. The annual Nutcraker performance was at the Des Moines Civic Center. Hartle performed as the Arabian Queen and Snow in this year's show.* photo by Liera Bender

◢**4.** *Laughing at each other, juniors Lauren Ward and Kate Fjelstad enjoy a night ice skating at Brenton Skating Plaza. The two went to Zombie Burger for dinner and Fjelstad ordered a wedding cake shake which was gone in minutes.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢**5.** *Sophomore Alysa Cheng and junior Karen Chen play Scrabble with their youth group. The group went to the CWC Christian church retreat in Kansas City, Missouri.* photo by Jiahui Huang

◢*Spread by Liera Bender and Katrina Fey*



◢Little Tyke to Big Mic

"I was in a band called the Horizon Boys when I was five years old," sophomore Mark Johnson said. "It mainly consisted of concerts in our family room for our parents." The boys also performed a concert in their backyard for friends and family. "I'm pretty sure we were sold out," Johnson said. Johnson has still enjoyed singing as much as he did when he was little. "Singing makes me happy and I feel like I can really connect with the songs that I'm singing."

Mob Mistake

In a middle school hallway full of people, "What Makes You Beautiful" by One Direction begins to play as junior Aditi Dinakar walks out of the auditorium. Ten students begin to dance in unison, using dance moves such as "the blender." **"None of us are very good dancers, so it was basically just arm movements,"** senior Breanna Williams said. Pretending to be surprised, Dinakar laughs

Three weeks before, the idea came to junior Pratyusha Bujimalla to perform a flash mob to surprise Dinakar on her birthday, which also happened to be the day of a debate tournament held by Dowling Catholic. After talking to her friends about it, she had five others from the debate team and a few students from different schools in on the surprise.

In preparation, junior Simi Varma choreographed and videotaped dance moves to an Indian song a week before the tournament and sent it over Facebook. The dancers were then supposed to practice the dance moves alone and have them memorized by the day of the tournament. The plan was to break out in dance in the cafeteria in between debates.

A few days before the tournament, one of the dancers slipped about the surprise to Dinakar. Then on the day of the tournament Varma ended up stranded alone at Dowling Catholic High School after some miscommunication. Because she had everything the rest of the group needed to perform the flash mob without Varma, they had to come up with a plan B.

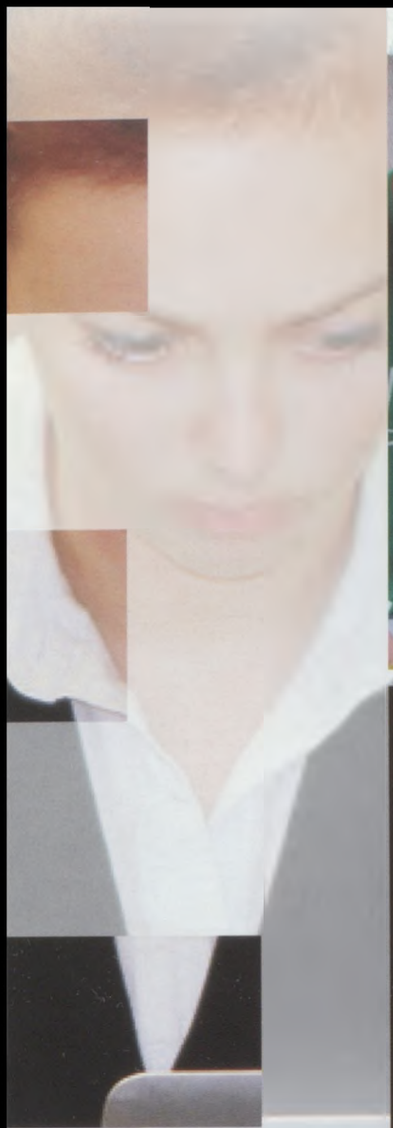
Within 10 minutes, the group decided on a new song and choreographed simple dance moves to go along with it. **"So what ended up happening was that we did a 20-second dance that was supposed to be a 10-minute dance and presented it to Aditi,"** senior Jiahui Huang said.

After "surprising" Dinakar with their dance, they proceeded to go back into the auditorium for awards. Afterwards, the friends went over to her house to celebrate her birthday.

Looking back at the situation, they like to laugh at it. "We now have an inside joke in the debate team that is 'you know you're a Johnston Debater when you epically fail at a flash mob,'" Huang said.

Debate Topics

- Fiscal Cliff
- Climate Change
- Election Process
- Foreign Policy
- Rise of China



◢Dominant. *Seniors Breanna Williams and Jiahui Huang use prep time in the Dowling debate competition to discuss what to say to their opponents' argument about tax raises being prioritized against spending cuts.* photo by Kate Allender

◢1. *Freshman Adam Dostalik checks his answers to correct problems he got wrong at the competition. The competitions were held at Iowa City High School. Seniors Austin Busch and Josh Boeschen qualified for state.* photo by Austin Busch

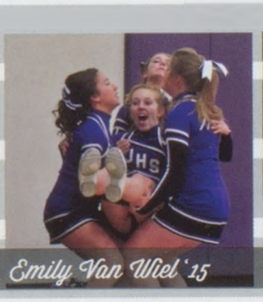
◢2. *Senior Sam Altier preforms a solo at the Waukee Jazz band competition.* photo by Kate Allender

◢3. *Juniors Sanjay Koduvalli and Alise Williams perform a scene at improv practice. The improv team as part of large group speech met every Thursday.* photo by Kate Allender

Junior Casey Briere takes his aim on the target in archery club. In December the archery club started their second year. The club was made of about 40 students and practiced every morning at 7. Archery club hosted two competitions including the annual NASP Winter Games. "There are definitely more people this year than in years past. I love that people are interested in archery and are willing to come practice," senior Olivia Guns said. photo by Austin Busch.

Rylee Keith '15

Mitch Corbin '13



Emily Van Wiel '15

Abigail Gorsche '15

Aditi Dinakar '14

◢Spread by Madison Soos and Kate Allender

Lyrical Vision

As the sun set on a cold December day, junior Audrey Knollenberg called for another take. She only had a few more minutes to get the perfect shot. "Action," Knollenberg said, and her cast, senior Mitch Corbin and junior Clara Carlson, walked off with their backs turned toward the camera.

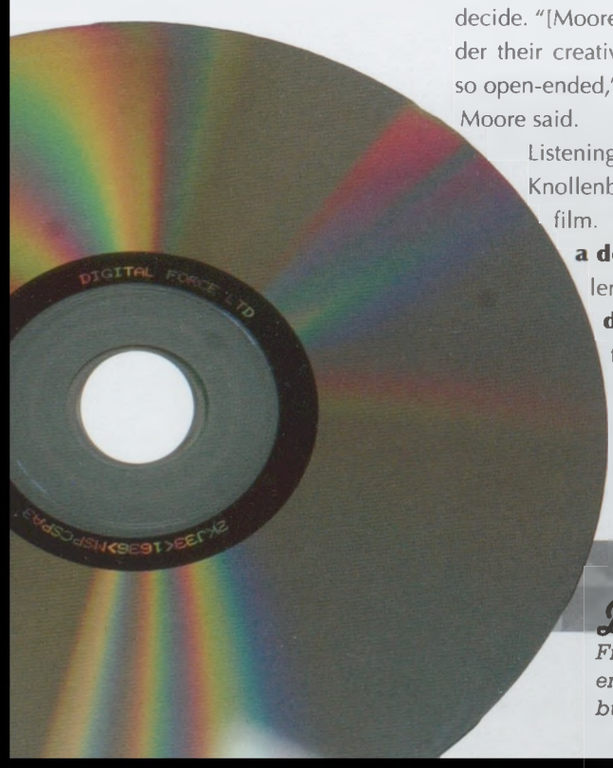
Relieved to get away from the blistering cold, they wrapped up the scene and drove off to Knollenberg's house to conclude their filming for their Reading the Screen project. The objective was simple: make a short film including an assigned line and object. The rest is all up for the students to decide. "[Moore and Walker] didn't want to squander their creativity, so that's why the project was so open-ended," Reading the Screen teacher Sarah Moore said.

Listening to Make it Stop by The Envy Corps, Knollenberg planned out the plot for her film. **"The lyrics made me think of a desire to end something,"** Knollenberg said, **"In this case a mundane life."** Finding her inspiration through the lyrics, Knollenberg decided on a film about a man, played by Corbin, who felt as if he was living the same exact life every day until he stopped to help a stranger in need played by Carlson.

The first few minutes of the film showed Corbin's character following his boring routine. The film took a turn when Carlson said the group's assigned line: "What's happening?" from "Poltergeist." This was the only line in the film. "I think we decided on having just that one line because it shows a difference between his life in the beginning before it was changed by meeting this person," Knollenberg said. **"It helped us change the tone of the video so the audience could assume his life got better after the story was over."**

Once filming was over, the group added music, effects and their assigned item: oven mitts. The group added an outro with a photo of them wearing oven mitts with a headline "An Oven Mitts production." "I don't know how, but we forgot to add our item during the entire filming process, so [the outro] was a last-ditch effort," Corbin said. "It was slapped on, but, just like an old couch with a patch on it, it adds character."

On presentation day, Corbin and Carlson were shown walking off into the sunrise. The "Oven Mitts Production" outro flashed across the screen and a chuckle erupted from the class as everyone began to clap. Those weeks spent working on this film paid off, and their film was a success.



DVD Memory

Films are made available for students to purchase after the semester has ended. Sarah Moore sells dvds for twenty-five cents and allows students to buy dvds from other class periods as well as their own.

Spread by Adelisa Turnadzic and Swathi Somisetty

◢Dominant. *Junior Audrey Knollenberg videotapes for a final semester project for Reading the Screen. Her group created a video of a boy's everyday life which was changed by a girl. photo by Adelisa Turmadzic*

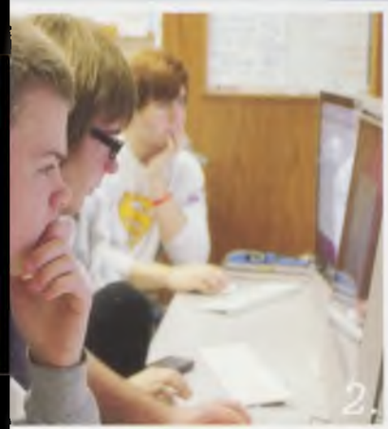
◢1. *Working on a cellular respiration lab for AP Biology, senior Cynthia Tice fills a test tube with germinated peas. The experiment was done over three days to measure how the age of a germinating seed altered the rate of respiration. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

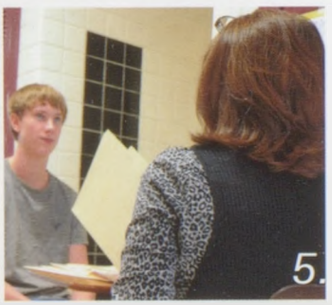
◢2. *While editing their news stories, juniors Trent Howard and Sam Huisinga design their newspaper layouts in Journalism. In addition to the the stories and leyouts, students wrote headlines, took photos, and wrote captions. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢3. *Senior Alex Langenberger paints an angel he made in Clay. In this class students work on several other projects such as making a creative animal, coil project, different pots and working on the wheel. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

◢4. *In FCS, senior Gabi Santiago and sophomore Shannon Hartle place the Christmas cookies on a tray to bake in the oven. The FCS class covered other units such as sewing, parenting and interior design. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

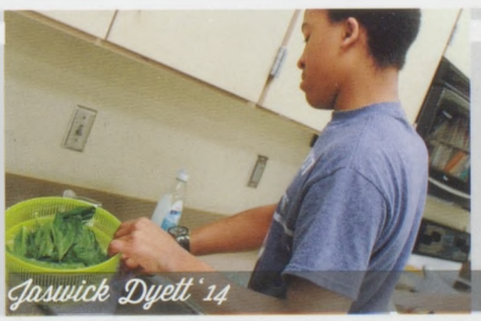
◢5. *Receiving his discussion topics, sophomore Collin Laughlin prepares to do his Spanish III verbal final. Students in this class each received different topics. photo by Kelsey Acheson*





◢Saucy Salads

In Culinary I, juniors Jaswick Dyett, Kaitlyn Hammer and senior Raven Wells prepare a salad before winter break. Other groups made pizza, dressing, croutons and fudge. After food was prepared, it was all set on a table for everyone to share. The salad with croutons and dressing was the appetizer, the pizza was the meal, and the fudge was the dessert.



Jaswick Dyett '14

Kaitlyn Hammer '14 & Raven Wells '13

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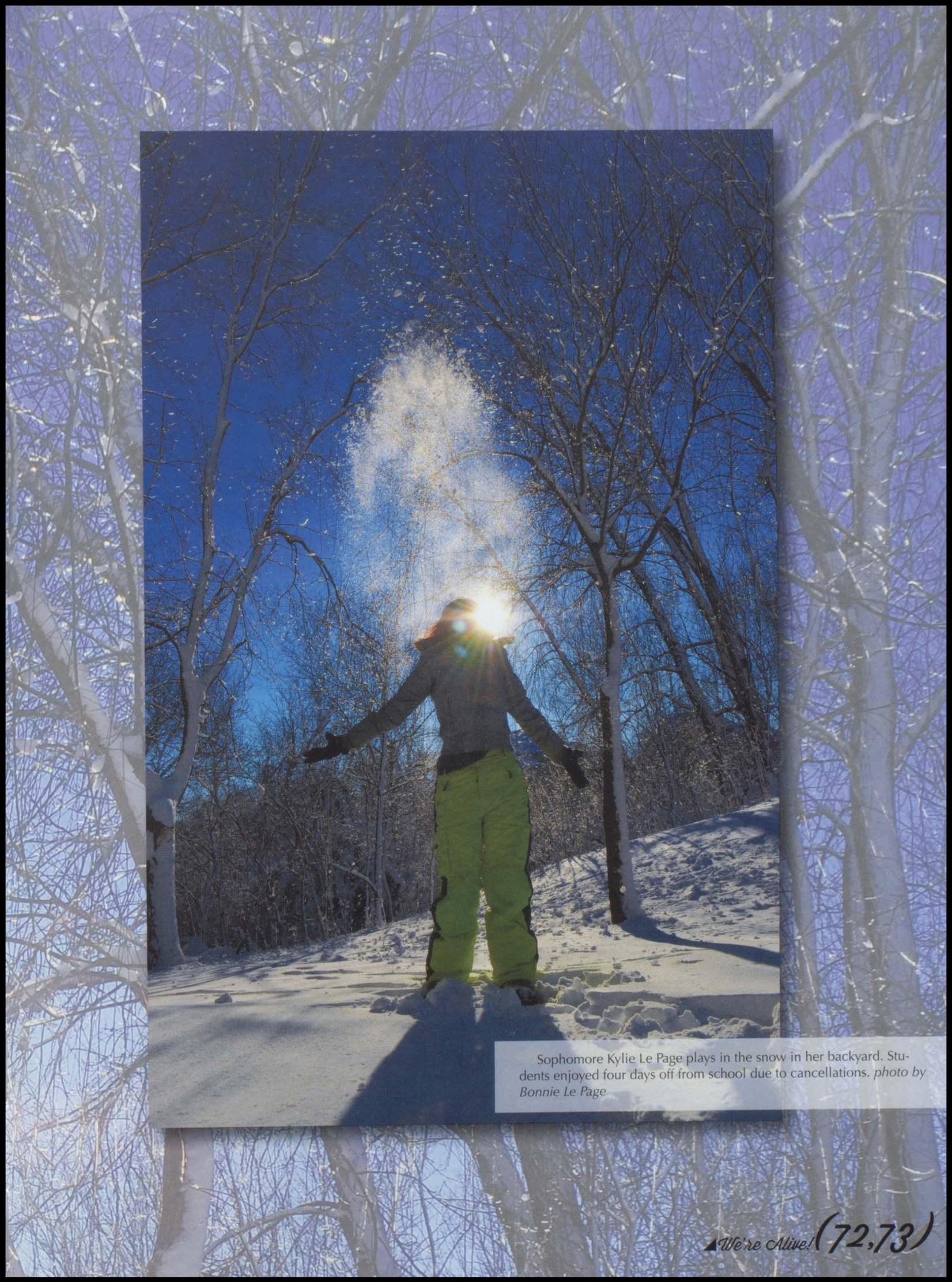
life.

ember 21, 2012. One in five Americans believes the world will end in his or her lifetime, according to an Ipsos survey conducted in 2012. This date was thought to be the end of a 5,126-year-long cycle in the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar. It's a calendar just like any other calendar, and is used to keep track of time, except that it records a unique cycle that's 1,872,000 days long (instead of, say, our 365-day annual calendar). This long period is known as a Great Cycle, and to the , the end of such a cycle is a time for celebration, not for fear. Celebrations erupted across the snow riddled land as early in the morning we realized school had been cancelled before break, pushing the finals schedule back two days. Life was put on hold as the snow froze everything in time. The snow storm of the season had arrived and doomsday was slowly approaching. It felt as if the end of the world was upon us. Thoughts on life and the things we are meant to do before we died loomed in the back of our minds. When faced with the realization of death we can run crying and screaming or we can embrace it and face our mortality. As the doomsday of our era approached and the countdown gradually reached zero, anxiety peaked. However the end of the world came and went, it seemed as life would become never ending. We started to realize that we were part of something bigger. Something more valuable. Continuum. As one life ends another is created to take its place.



Sophomore Kylie Le Page plays in the snow in her backyard. Students enjoyed four days off from school due to cancellations. *photo by Bonnie Le Page*

Deep Thoughts

Lined up on stage, the participants of the second annual talent show for Johnston's Big Give wait for judges (sophomore Reid Sinnett, junior Monica Gagne, seniors Reid Lefler and Courtney Norelius and guidance secretary Sarah Marckmann) to make their final decisions. The judges were running behind, so the students on stage passed the time by singing along to Jesse McCartney's "Beautiful Soul." After waiting, Marckmann got on stage to announce the results.

Marckmann began with honorable mentions, then continued to announce the top three contestants. "And first place goes to," Marckmann said, "Andrew Mills!"

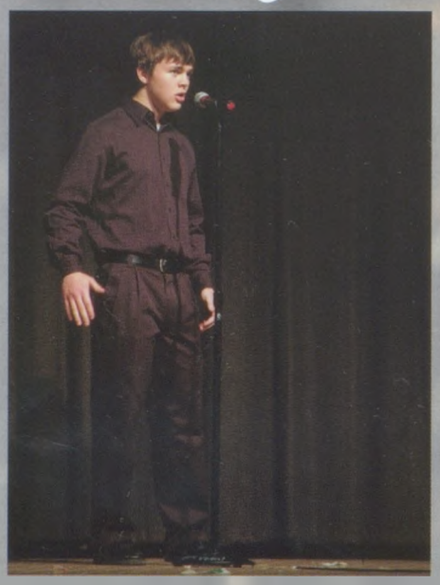
"I was surprised when they said my name," junior Andrew Mills said. "My friends were there and were really psyched for me."

Mills wrote and memorized his poem "Deep" as part of his independent study first semester. It began as something to pass the time while in AP US History. The poem is an introspection of Mills' thinking process and is expressed by one extended metaphor, a paintball match in a library.

Mills prepared for his performance first by reading through his poem until he had it fully memorized. He performed it in front of his family and also English teacher Ed Walker and ELP teacher Sue Cline who supervised his independent study. Walker encouraged him to go out and perform his poetry. Mills did one final run through at the mic check before preforming at the talent show.

Sophomore Scarlett Eagle attended the talent show. "When he started reading his poem, I was really confused," Eagle said, "but then it got really deep and inspirational." Eagle also enjoyed many other acts, such as "What Makes You Beautiful" performed by the Dragon Dreamers and "Fireman Remix" performed by the Tres Comocozis.

The Dragon Dreamers was a music group that consisted of special need students and their peer helpers. The Tres Comocozis was a rap group formed by seniors Spencer Moser, Tyler Smaha, and Matthew Hanstad.

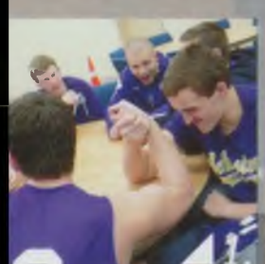


Standing before a crowd of students, parents and teachers, junior Andrew Mills performs his poem "Deep." Mills was sick during the talent show auditions but managed to squeeze in an audition a couple days before the show and landed a spot.
photo by Kylie Le Page

The items and money raised during the talent show and other Johnston's Big Give events were donated to the Partnership Place, and the organizations associated with it. The talent show alone raised over $1,500. **"It was nice to be able to perform poetry for a large audience for the first time and also raise money for a good cause,"** Mills said.

After performing for the talent show, Mills decided to research other places where he could do poetry readings. **"I wanted to do something interesting,"** Mills said, **"and I've always been interested in words."** He found out about poetry slam nights at Java Joes, which happen every third Tuesday of the month. Mills attended the February poetry slam soon after he won at the talent show. There Mills performed three of his poems, "Deep," "Gifts Given," and one untitled piece.

"I got second overall out of twelve poets so I was pretty psyched," Mills said. "Performing for strangers took a bit of the pressure off."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◢**Dominant.** *Senior Melia Black sings "Overcome" at The Bridge Church for the Moving Forward Together event. Over 225 people attended. The event focused on helping people who were struggling with a loss or trying to find new hope from a sad situation. "I was really nervous, but I was more honored (to sing) than anything," Black said.* photo by Kelsey Acheson

◢**1.** *Both Will Hyde and Jordan Mann, seniors, try their hands at arm wrestling at Overtime after the home basketball game against Urbandale. "We were getting jacked up for dodgeball, so we were seeing who could beat each other," Hyde said. Overtime was an event held at the Johnston Evangelical Free Church. Students enjoyed free pizza and drinks along with a few rounds of dodgeball.* photo by Kylie Le Page

◢**2.** *Talking to both interviewers, senior Ryan Tigges attempts to ace his Dollars for Scholars interview. "The questions weren't as hard as I thought they were going to be," Tigges said. "There were even some fun questions like: 'If I could change JHS, what would I do?' I liked answering that one."* photo by Kylie Le Page

◢**3.** *Stevie Watts, a junior, let her friends strap 15 birthday hats on to her at Hannah Van Zee's 17th birthday party. "It was difficult to eat because I had to pull most of them off just to get the one over my mouth off," Watts said. "The straps would snap my face so it was painful. I ended up having to rip them all off at the same time."* photo by Anna Lam

◢**4.** *Sitting on the edge of a pond, junior Blake Singbush takes a break from his fun. On the last day of finals, Singbush and his group of friends decided to go and play outside on the pond behind junior Kelsey Acheson's house.* photo by Laura Schwartz

◢**5.** *Pointing his violin and standing outside teacher Chris Beguhn's room, sophomore Marcus Miller prepares for the student council's talent show auditions. "I am always more nervous for the tryout than the actual performance," Miller said. "I don't know why, but I love performing for everyone and it's just a lot of fun."* photo by Laura Schwartz

◢ *Spread by Anna Lam and Kylie Le Page*

◢ *Gym girl*

Sophomore Macall Campbell started gymnastics when she was six years old. "I saw the 2004 Olympics and I wanted to do stuff like that, and then I started getting more serious (about gymnastics)," she said. Campbell's mom Cindy, who participated in gymnastics at a young age, encouraged the family to join. They all eventually quit, or found something else instead. Campbell said. "I was the only one in my family who really wanted to stick with it. I want to keep going and be part of a college team."

Choir Crisis

Foundation in one hand and mascara in the other, junior Audrey Kaus struggles to put on her makeup as the bus drives to Linn-Mar for the show choir's first competition of the season.

"On our trip to Linn-Mar, our bus trip took longer than planned so Synergy had 20 minutes to get ready once we got to the school," junior Abby Dockum said.

Dockum started checking her phone an hour before the show choir was supposed to arrive and saw that the bus was an hour behind. **"We usually have an hour and a half to get ready,"** Dockum said. **"But because we were running late, we had to start doing our makeup on the bus."**

After the choir arrived, it was a mad rush to get ready. "Our homerooms were tiny, and with all the Synergy girls changing it was very stressful," senior Hailey Kromminga said. **"Anyone who was not in Synergy or helping was shunned from the room."**

While the girls got ready in the homerooms, the boys were busy trying to unload everything in time for the performance. "Unloading can be difficult, trying to figure out where everything needs to go," sophomore Kameron DeMoss said. "And there was a little panic because we thought somebody had left one of the smaller instruments, but everything worked out okay in the end."

Even with all the chaos, everyone managed to pull through. Since Synergy had an early performance time all of the audience had not arrived yet. Innovation took this time to get in the front row chanting, cheering, and pumping up the energy. "Sy-ner-gy (clap clap clap clap) Sy-ner-gy (clap clap clap clap)," the choir cheered.

The hair and makeup were not completely perfect, but the choir still performed its best and even surprised themselves on how well they did. **"Since it was our first competition of the year I didn't have very high expectations at Linn-Mar, but the performance went really well,"** Dockum said.

Synergy placed second overall in the show choir prep category. "Truthfully, I was kind of surprised we got second," Dockum said. "But it's good to know that we were already in such a good place with our show at the very beginning of the season, especially with all the chaos happening."

SET LIST

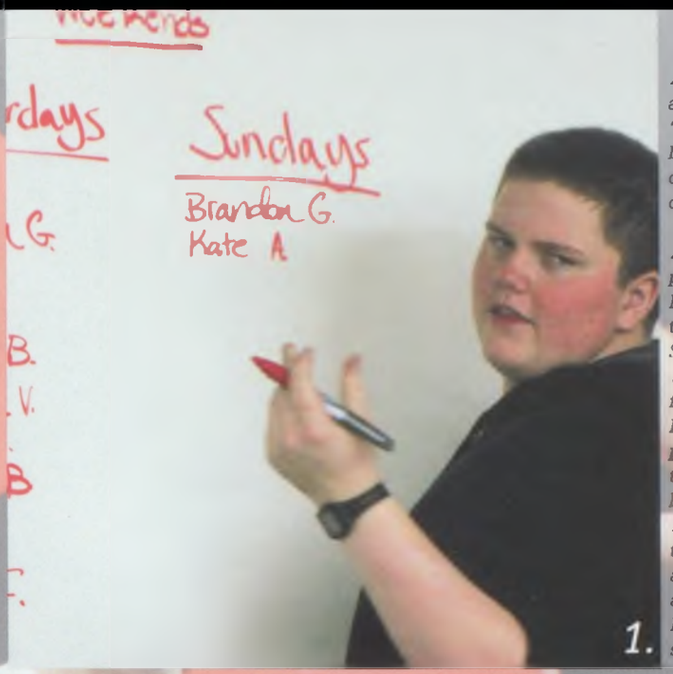
"Too Darn Hot"

"Get Ready"

"Camoflauge"

"Queen of the Night"

"Trashing the Camp"



◢Dominant. *Joscey Miner, a senior, and Brooke Stevens, a junior, perform to "Queen of the Night." Innovation members added velcro to the back of the dresses in order to do a quick change during the show. photo by Kate Allender*

◢1. *Junior Monte Friestad records the people willing to volunteer at Veterans Nursing home. TSA members visited the nursing home on Saturdays and Sundays. photo by Kate Allender*

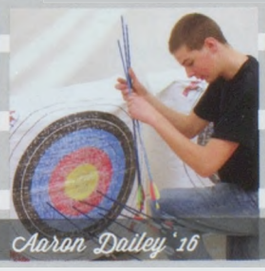
◢2. *With the song "Tattoo" blasting from the gym speakers, senior Stephanie Phillips and sophomore Shannon Hartle perform a hip hop routine during dance team's senior night performance. photo by Hannah Van Zee*

◢3. *The choral reading team practices the day before their district competition at Ankeny. The team spent three days a week practicing the script of "Inspired Minds Don't Think Alike" and placed at state. photo by Kate Allender*

Senior Marc Brault sketches a character from the anime series "Death Note" onto the white board by looking at a picture on his iPad. Lead by president Kaitlyn Hammer, the anime club met every Wednesday morning and every Friday after school. "It's very very loud," Hammer said. "We have a lot of fun. Even though not everyone gets along, we make it through our differences." *photo by Kate Allender*

Kameron DeMoss '15

Andrea Schultz '15


Aaron Dailey '16

Kelsey Kramer '14

Newspaper Staff

◢Spread by Jiahui Huang and Kate Allender

Digital Era

No longer was the familiar scratching of pencil on paper heard in teacher Jerry Kinder's AP History classes. Instead, it was a classroom resonating with the soft pitter-patter of styluses tapping on glass. It was the beginning of a new era, the introduction of the iPads.

In classrooms, the educational experience had been virtualized. "We are basically using it (the iPad) the entire period," history teacher Jessica Dowell said. She had her students develop an entire digital notebook for her classes.

The students were able to access textbooks on their iPads. "I find it really useful, especially since we don't have to have the social studies book anymore," sophomore Autumn Askew said. **"We can have the iPads with PDFs, instead of carrying a really heavy textbook."**

Students faced another crucial point in the new iPad regime: distractions. **"I think if a teacher is prepared, and has put some thought into the lesson they are using it with, it can greatly enhance teaching,"** Dowell said. "But if it's not really planned and if it's kind of used haphazardly then it can easily be, for some students, a distraction."

Many students gave in to the tempting calls of Angry Birds, and other games found on the iPad. Keeping students' focus was an ongoing struggle that everyone was finding extremely difficult.

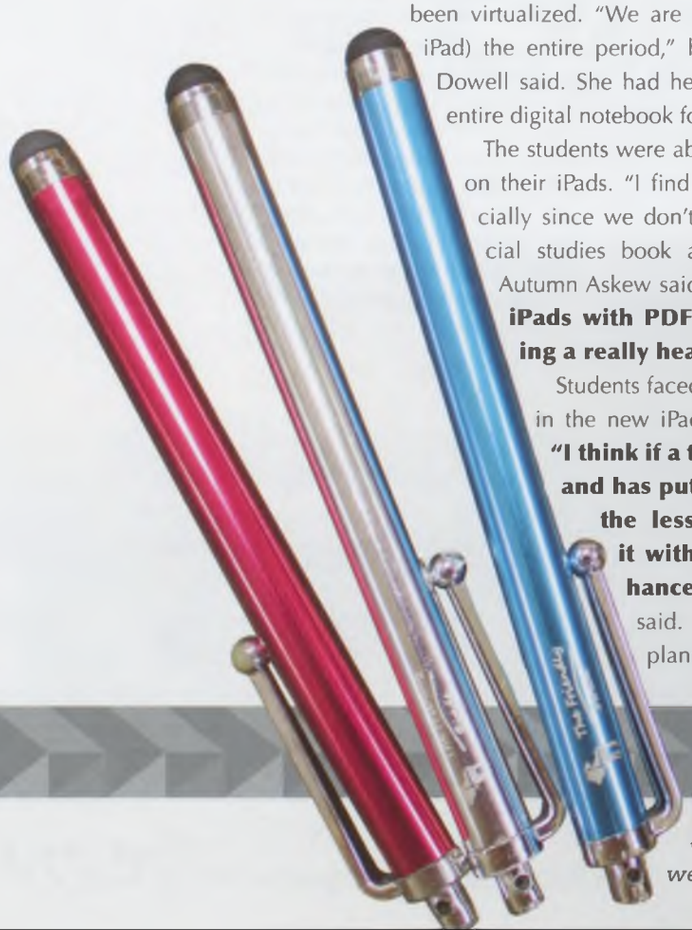
Every new innovation has a learning curve. "(The iPad) is a lot of procedural work," Dowell said. "A lot of them (students) haven't had it in their hands before, they are really frustrated." Yet not everyone feels the frustration is solely the fault of the students.

"Personally, as an academic tool, I feel that a lot of the teachers don't really know how to incorporate it into the curriculum." senior Heath Dannen said. "So far, I think it wasn't a good choice on their (the school's) part."

Senior Olivia Guns had conflicts about the iPad too. **"No class has really given us anything to do on the iPads,"** Guns said. "Some teachers have said that we're not going to use them."

Throughout the school district, the iPads were considered a large success because they took weight off students' backs by replacing textbooks and notebooks.

As the iPad initiative continued, one thing was clear: the pitter-patter was there to stay.



Stylus Style

At the iPad launch each student received a stylus. Students were able to purchase a new stylus pen for $1 in the library as well as microfiber cleaning cloths. ▲*Spread by Swathi Somisetty and Sanjay Koduvalli*

◢Dominant *After receiving his iPad at the iPad launch, sophomore Senad Besic explores the App Store. The teachers guided groups of students through a step-by-step process to set up their new iPads with jdragonmail and other apps. photo by Laura Schwartz*

***◢1.** During the iPad launch senior Carly Crist and Señor Gerald Hollingsworth open the boxes that contain his advisory's iPads to hand them out to the students. Each iPad came enclosed in a protective case with a name card, stylus and charger. photo by Laura Schwartz*

***◢2.** Junior Hannah Tetmeyer works on completing the annual Iowa Assessments. "The worst part about these tests is the math section," Tetmeyer said. "I am really glad this will be my last year taking these." photo by Swathi Somisetty*

***◢3.** Junior Maddie Case cleans chemicals from her developing film in Photo Art I. "I like this class because it teaches me patience and I learn how to make film the old-fashioned way," Case said. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

***◢4.** For Culinary III, junior Taylor Stevens fries apples. Students were divided into groups of three and worked on the different cooking skills needed to make other foods later in the semester. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

***◢5.** To let teacher Sue Cline know of her progress, junior Sierra Ballard works on filling out an update for ELP. All students in ELP designed and completed their own projects for the semester. photo by Swathi Somisetty*

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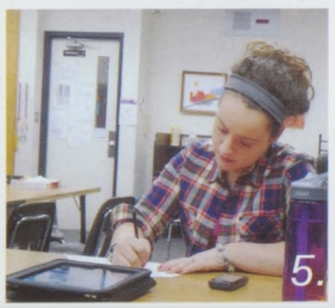
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◢Virtual Cat

Juniors Callie Alvarez and Shannon Beirschmidt watch a video tutorial created by teacher Dustin Mead before moving on to their next step of cat dissection in anatomy. Tutorials for each step of dissection were provided to guide students through the process. After watching the tutorial, juniors Kenzie Foldes, Stanzy Snyder, and Laura Scieszinski put on their safety goggles and latex gloves to begin the dissection.

Callie Alvarez '14, Shannon Beierschmitt '14, Lorenza Gentile '13

Kenzie Foldes '14, Stanzy Snyder '14, Laura Scieszinski '14

Shake Goes Viral

Huddled around a computer in junior Tyler Steuber's basement, juniors Robert Doan, Chandler Bakken, Wesley Witt, and Steuber watched tons of Harlem Shake videos. Since they weren't the greatest dancers, they searched for dance moves they all could achieve. They also looked for ridiculous and outrageous actions other people did, so they could make their video just as weird. **"It was a Friday night and we were bored out of our minds,"** Doan said**, "so we said 'Let's do the Harlem Shake and go viral and become famous.'"**

The concept of the Harlem Shake was to have somebody dance alone to the song for about 15 seconds while others around paid no attention. Eventually, the video cut to the entire group dancing crazily. In the first two weeks of February, people all over the world uploaded over 40,000 Harlem Shake videos.

Because it was Steuber's house and he found a mask to wear, he danced at the beginning of the song, while the other three acted as if nothing out of the ordinary was happening. While Steuber flailed his arms, Bakken "texted" and Doan and Witt "watched TV." **"When we had to be normal while Tyler was dancing in the middle it was really hard not to laugh,"** Bakken said.

Once they all began dancing, they took new positions. "Robert was adamant about wearing the least amount of clothing possible," Bakken said.

After they finished filming they watched the video several times to make sure it was perfect. "It was slightly inappropriate," Doan said.

Doan edited the video and posted it on Twitter. "I first tweeted it at like one in the morning, but no one was on Twitter so we thought no one would see it, so I tweeted it like 10 times the next day," Doan said.

They received different reactions. Somebody told them they needed help and some felt awkward, but most said their dance was funny. "We wanted people to think, 'whoa that's weird' and tell their friends," Doan said.

A more appropriate version of the Harlem Shake was made by fully-clothed members of the Innovation show choir during game night. "It was super fun," senior Joscey Miner said. "I was cracking up the whole time I was dancing solo in the center because everyone was just lying around me trying not the laugh."

Senior Joscey Miner waits for the music to start as the rest of Innovation lays on the ground acting like they don't know what's about to happen. "We were just in our show choir rehearsal clothes, but I found a cowboy hat to wear in Mr. Shepard's office," Miner said.
photo by Anne Chittenden

The assistant director, Anne Chittenden, stood on the risers and directed them. They winged it and only went through it once because it was just for fun while Chittenden videotaped it on her phone. "We're all pretty comfortable with each other and it's easy to be a little wacky so we just went crazy and didn't really care," senior Courtney Norelius said.

The shake proved to be a needed break from the grind of weekly Monday night rehearsals during the show choir season.

"**It was another thing that brought the group together by doing something really fun and shaking up a normal Monday night rehearsal, no pun intended,"** Norelius said.

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◢**Dominant.** *As the snow falls, sophomore Luke Davis shovels his neighbor, sophomore Alyson Bowen's driveway. He and his friend, sophomore Sam Buckley couldn't keep up with the snow. They would shovel a patch of driveway and then five minutes later it would be covered in snow again.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**1.** *Using a headlight to guide her in the dark, junior Kate Fjelstad looks for the next rock to grab as she climbs up the wall. She competed in the Flock to the Rock Competition at Climb Iowa Feb. 10. She and her opponents climbed for a total of 6 hours.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**2.** *Senior Michael Schwaderer serves himself up some frozen yogurt at Orange Leaf on Feb. 7. He and his friends had just gotten sandwiches at the new Subway right next door and thought it would be a great idea to get some for dessert.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**3.** *Attempting to create a balloon flower hat, sophomore Jennifer Birmingham volunteers at the Purple Party, a fund raiser to help raise money for the Johnston School District. "After tying the balloons for what seemed like ever my hands started to hurt and smell like rubber," Birmingham said.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**4.** *Junior Pete Lashier, ready to pounce, scopes out the dodgeball game. Lashier and his team competed in the dodgeball intramurals against 11 other teams. All of the money earned went toward Johnston's Big Give held by the student council.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**5.** *Twirling down the runway, junior Laura Schwartz models a white dress with purple accents at Johnston's Prom Fashion Show. The show was held at Stacey's Prom to help raise money for after prom. "I loved trying on dresses that otherwise I wouldn't get to. Some of the dresses were so expensive there, it was outrageous," Schwartz said.* photo by Katrina Fey

◢*Spread by Katrina Fey and Amanda Jensen*

◢Tricycle to Bicycle

"I started riding my bike when I was 3," senior Tyler Rushing said. "I just got on and went, no training wheels." Rushing has been competitively riding bikes since 2008. "I compete about every weekend," he said. "I like it as a test to see if you could get better than you were before."

Rushing has been category state champion twice and races in category one which is the highest level one can race. "I would love to go pro," Rushing said. "I love the thrill of flying through the woods really fast knowing if you fall you're going to be really hurt."

Big Impact

Carrying boxes of canned soup, sophomore Marcus Miller takes many trips back and forth between Samantha Robilliard's and Chris Beguhn's classrooms. The heavy boxes are full of chicken noodle, tomato, cream of muchroom and chunky beef soup that are all going to be donated to the community.

The canned food and clothing drive was part of the Big Give which student council organized every winter. The events raised money for charity and benefitted the community. Food and clothing drive donations exceeded 700 canned food items and 40 bags of clothes. Miller and sophomores Liera Bender, Regen Siems and juniors Shannon Beierschmitt and Swathi Somisetty organized the drive.

Robilliard's second period class came in second with the most donated food and clothing items, next to Beguhn's class who came in first.

"One of the main things I wanted to do was create an incentive," Miller said, **"so that people would be more willing to donate."** The class that earned the most points based off the point system won the prize. The winning class earned a full tray of chocolate chip cookies. "The point system was based off the items that were needed most," Miller said. **"More needed items had a higher point value."**

Student council asked students to take donated items to their second period classes for two weeks. Once students donated all of the goods, they needed to be sorted and boxed. Student council took one evening to do this. The next school day, they transported everything to the Johnston Partnership Place, an organization that served over 100 families in the area.

Families could come in and shop to pick out what they needed. Each family received anywhere from 2,000 to 3,000 food items per month. **"Without donations it would be impossible to supply to as many families as we do each month,"** Partnership Place Director, Shawna Veron said. "The donations make a big difference in what we are able to do for the families."

Student council was pleased with the drive. **"Seeing how the school came together to make an impact on our community is awesome,"** Siems said. "My favorite part was seeing the kids in our school getting more involved than I thought they would."

Clothing

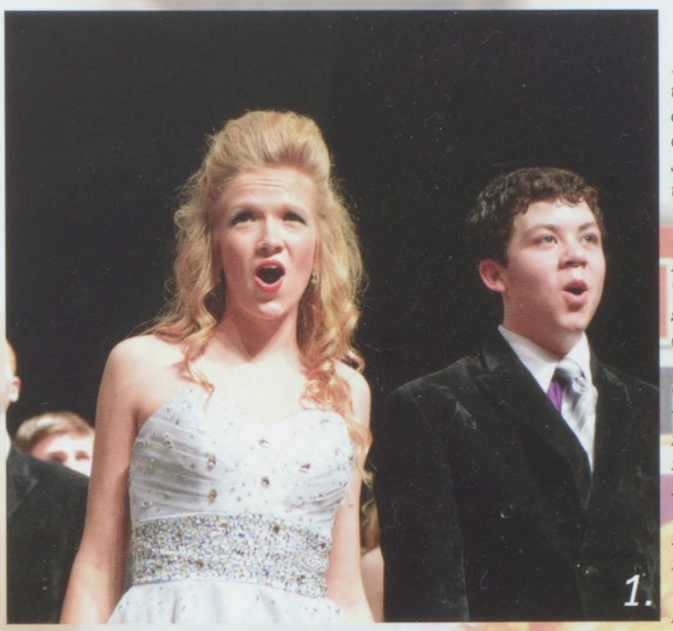
Food and Personal Items

Blankets

Restaurant Nights

Money from Talent Show

DONATED

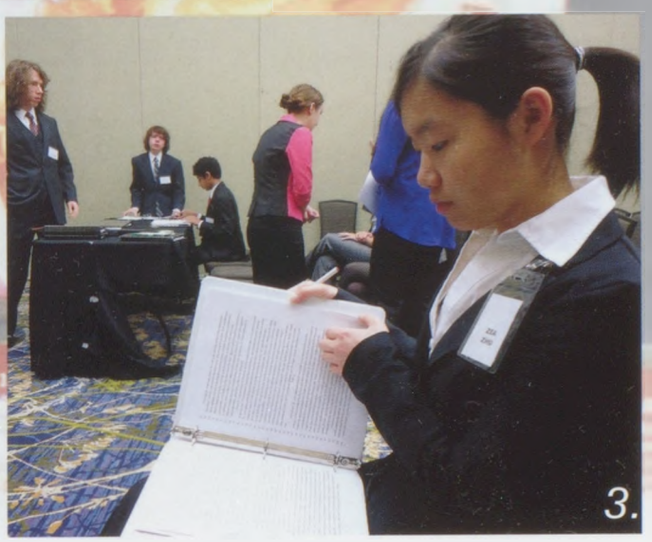


◢**Dominant**. *The canned food pile up as students sort them after student council's canned food and clothing drive. The cans were delivered to the Johnston Partnership Place as part of the Big Give. photo by Swathi Somsetty*

◢**1.** *Sophomores Jenna Smith and Kameron DeMoss perform at Urbandale. They finished fourth in the daytime show and fifth in finals. photo by Alexandra Reiher*

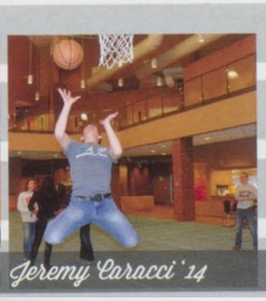
◢**2.** *Juniors Riley Deutsch and Megan Gibbons check their scores at the individual speech district competition to see if they made it to state. They both made it in the public address event, earning Division 1 ratings. photo by Jiahui Huang*

◢**3.** *During the first round of regional mock trial, senior Zea Zhu reviews her notes for the defense. Zhu played nurse Gopi in the case about medical battery. photo by Jiahui Huang*



Cheering on the boys' varsity wrestling team, sophomore Tori Pearson chants "Go! Fight! Win!" The team wore red bows in remembrance of Cameron Carico. "We knew that it would be a day that kids would wear their red shirts, we also wanted to wear something to show our support," Pearson said. "So we thought that bows would be a subtle way of doing so that we could also wear with our uniforms." *photo by Swathi Somisetty*

Kate Tjelstad '14


Jeremy Caracci '14

Alexander Ritchie '14

Jack Kaputska '14

Alyssa Cheng '15

◢*Spread by Liera Bender and Alexandra Reiher*

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Creative Risks

Walking into her fourth hour class, junior Maddie Case sees no wooden desks, no textbooks, but instead a dark room, chemical-stained tables and art engulfing the walls, unusual surroundings for a classroom.

The school offered two semester-long photo art courses. Students found the courses thought-provoking and unique.

"It challenges you," photo teacher Dan Weiss said. "How I ask you to learn engages your right hemisphere and left hemisphere and uses them together."

Along with taking photos, the students of Photo Art learned a full history and understanding of the art of photography.

"It has a very strong backbone, lots of curriculum," Case said.

Some found it unusual to write in a photography class. "We had to read a book and write a paper about it," senior Kyle Gansemer said. "He wanted us to learn how to write a good formal paper."

Every week the students worked on a new project. They went out and took pictures and then developed them in the dark room. Each project had a certain focus area.

"The first thing we do is learn about shapes and lines and how to put those into photos," Gansemer said. "Then, from there we built on to get different elements of photos, like how you can anchor things into the corners and how different objects look in the picture frame."

For some of his projects Weiss liked to challenge his photographers. **"A really important part of creativity is taking risks,"** Weiss said, "Nothing ever changes or progresses if you don't take risks." Weiss encouraged his students to think outside of the box.

"One of my favorite (projects) was doing a texture study where you take two uncommon textures and put them together," Case said. "I took something soft and I put them with a maraca, which was smooth and shiny, and it went really well. The maraca emphasized the fuzziness and the fuzziness went back and emphasized the smoothness in the maraca."

Students learned in the class. **"If you don't worry about the grades and focus on learning and the experience you'll go far,"** Gansemer said. "Everyone should take it."

Correct Camera

Photo art students start by using film cameras in Photo Art I. Students were able to switch to digital cameras if they preferred so they could print their photos out.

Spread by Gabby Ledesma and Elizabeth Reiher

◢Dominant. *Prints hang to dry on the drying rack in the photo art dark room. Graduate James Shanks built the rack when he was a student. photo by Elizabeth Reiher*

◢1. *Juniors Maren Bettis and Audrey Kaus make blankets in advisory as part of student council's Big Give Week. photo by Elizabeth Reiher*

◢2. *Sophomore Sasha Amos sands down part of her project during Advanced Wood Working. Students choose what they wanted to create, a privilege given only to Advanced Woods. photo by Liera Bender*

◢3. *Concert Band performs the "Armed Forces Salute" at the Masterworks concert. Both choir and band came together to honor the men and women who serve our country. photo by Elizabeth Reiher*

◢4. *As part of Track 6 P.E., Sam Schade, a senior, climbs the top rope wall at Climb Iowa in Grimes. Students were bussed to and from Climb Iowa during the school day. photo by Elizabeth Reiher*

◢5. *Clockwise from left, Emma Kielty, Haley Daughetee, Barbie Sullivan and Megan Buckallew, sophomores in Women's Choir, perform at the Masterworks concert. All auditioned choruses performed in the music department's annual Masterworks concert. photo by Elizabeth Reiher*

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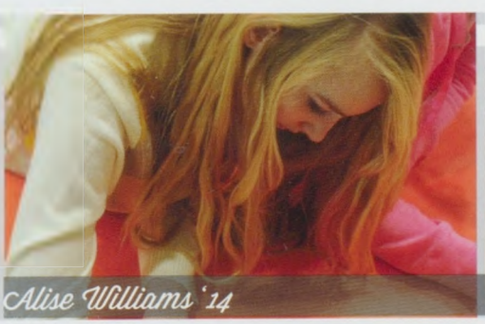
◢Complex Characters

Junior Alise Williams works on her character movie poster for Reading the Screen. Students watched "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back" and each group made a poster for a character assigned to them. Williams and senior Elizabeth Roach-Lindeman's group was assigned Princess Leia. Their poster including many drawings of Leia in order to fill the six requirements for the poster.



Alise Williams '14

Elizabeth Roach-Lindeman '13

A yellow Tiger Swallowtail butterfly lands on a flower to enjoy its nectar and continue the pollination process. The return of butterflies signifies the beginning of spring and bring the life back to nature. *photo by Kelsey Acheson*

Spring

March. The push for spring begins just as North Korea ends all peace treaties with South Korea. As the snow stuck around we all celebrated St. Patrick's Day amid the white winter snow. Spring break could not come soon enough. As the weather stayed cold, seniors jumped on the plane to Mexico, juniors and sophomores traveled to Disneyland, skied, and visited grandparents.

April. As school sped up, terror did too as two brothers set bombs at the Boston Marathon. Three people were killed, while nearly 200 people were injured. Soon the weather turned, and fishing, skateboarding, and spring sports made everyone wish for summer.

May. Just as one day reached 80 degrees, the next brought on freezing weather and snow in May. The next two days brought on confusion as spring sports had to cancel a majority of their games because it was too cold to play. Snow turned to rain on the day of prom, and pink, blue, and yellow dresses were soaked but that didnt stop the seniors from TP-ing the school as their senior prank the Sunday after prom. Summer came quicker than we expected and life started changing again. Seniors said their goodbyes, while juniors prepared to take on leadership, and sophomores started to prepare for the new year.

Urbandale Invitational **3rd,** *Waukee* **2nd**, *Ames Invitational* **2nd**, *Johnston Invitational* **7th**, *Dowling* **2nd**, *Waukee Invi*

SLEET MEET

Arriving at West Des Moines' sweeping Willow Creek Golf course, coach Steve Smith and six varsity girls' golf players prepare to play in unusually chilly spring weather. It's not until the instructions for the day are being read, though, that the bad weather really starts to kick in. "**When the Valley coach rounded us up to start the meet, it began sleeting**," senior Brenna Robinson said, "It was freezing."

The team had known in advance about the potentially cool weather, but went to the meet anyway and decided to try and play in the cold. They had played several times in the rain this season, and that had never stopped them. "If there's no lightning, we normally play," junior Alison Kretzinger said.

Golfing in sleet, however, was a first for the team, and it was not going to be an easy thing to do. "Your hands freeze and you can't grip the club," Kretzinger said.

Fortunately, they came prepared. "We knew it was going to be cold," Smith said. **"We had hand warmers, earmuffs, stocking hats, the whole nine yards. We had everything."**

Then the question was how they were going to golf with all of that extra gear. One of the rules at golf meets is that players cannot communicate at all with spectators during the game. This meant that the golfers had to struggle with their gloves and mittens themselves rather than hand things off to parents and friends; otherwise, they would be disqualified. **"We all had to learn how to swing with like seven layers on,"** Kretzinger said. "It was really a challenge."

The team endured playing four or five holes, depending on the group, while being drenched by the sleet and snow mixture. This ended up taking two hours, the same amount of time it normally takes to complete a full nine-hole golf course.

When a coach came riding over in a golf cart and told the girls that the meet was cancelled, they could not believe it. **"We all thought he was joking,"** Robinson said. **"We were all frozen by that point."**

After battling the cold and wet, the team was thoroughly disappointed that they had only made it halfway through the course. Because they hadn't played a full nine-holes, the girls' scores could not count for anything. "We stood and played in the sleet for no reason," Robinson said.

Even though it was disheartening at the time, the girls did not look back on the meet with anger or irritation. **"It's a good memory we will always remember,"** Kretzinger said. **"We all laugh about it now."**

One thing golf players know for sure is that, where golf is concerned, weather conditions will always have an impact. "That's just the game of golf," Kretzinger said.

GOAL: WIN A DUEL MEET

"One of our goals was to win a duel meet and we won against Ames. And I wanted to just overall improve from last year."

-Courtney Nyberg '13

GOAL: IMPROVE PUTTING SKILLS

"I didn't want to waste a lot of strokes on the green. Some days I did really well at putting and other days I didn't, depending on the speed of the greens."

-Brianna Borup '14

GOAL: GET UNDER 50 ON 9 HOLE

"I wanted to get as close to par as I could and so I didn't put too much pressure on myself to do well. I achieved my goal many times during the season."

-Kelli Bormann '15

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◢**Dominant**. *Sophomore Olivia Doherty places her ball on the putting green at Urbandale Golf and Country Club. "I was excited to have an easy putt left. It's important to stay focused though because even if you think you're left with an easy shot it can go wrong really fast," Doherty said. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**1.** *Keeping her eyes on the ball, junior Rachel Walljasper makes her second putt on the hole at the regional meet at Otter Creek Golf Course. She ended with a 74.50 point average for 18-hole courses, including this one. photo by Jiahui Huang*

◢**2.** *On the sixth hole at Jester Park Golf Course, senior Brenna Robinson searches for her ball in the sky. Robinson golfed three 18-hole rounds with a low score of 98. photo by Kate Allender*

◢**3.** *Senior Sanna Rasmussen focuses on lining up her ball with the hole. This was a technique the girls on the team used to improve their putting accuracy. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**4.** *Teeing off, junior Alison Kretzinger swings her driver back in preparation to hit the ball. Kretzinger had a 49.67 average for nine-hole golf courses. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢*Spread by Hannah Van Zee and Kelsey Acheson*

Drake days

STATE BOUND

Both hands rest on the thin white line, feet pushed up against the two starting blocks. As sophomore Jack Bergstrom looks up, sweat starts to make its way down his face. It's just he and the long band of hurdles awaiting him.

The Drake Relays attracts olympic, college and high school athletes. Bergstrom had qualified in the 400 hurdles and the 4 by 400 relay.

More than 40,000 spectators crowded the stadium to watch the spectacle throughout the week. Over 220 high school, college, university, and world class athletes made their way to the track and field to compete amongst one another.

The Johnston runners wanted to make it to Drake and practiced well to make sure it would happen. **"I really made sure to focus during practices"** Bergstrom said. **"I practiced each day as if I were running at the Relays."** The closer he got to Drake the harder practices appeared to get. It was all about making sure that he was as prepared as he could be.

Friday, the first day of the relays for Bergstrom came along quickly. He was to run the 4 by 4 prelims. As the race progressed the team began to struggle more and more with each stride.

The intensity of the race began to take over. After the race Bergstrom made his way to his coach. "I asked my coach what happened during the race," Bergstrom said. His coach quickly responded by saying they threw up a yellow flag. "I asked my coach if he thought we would be disqualified," Bergstrom said. "He was like yeah, you boys are going to get disqualified. From that point on Bergstrom was determined to win his next race for his teammates.

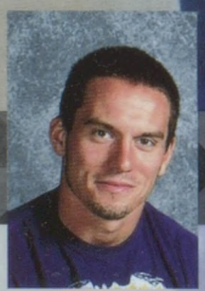
"I was so nervous, I couldn't feel my hands or arms," Bergstrom said. **"I had to keep grabbing them together because they were tingly up to my shoulder."**

The sophomore was focused to win his incredibly tough heat, not only for him but for his tightly-knit teammates disqualified the day before. "I look over my shoulder and there was a Derek Jones who just got a full ride scholarship to Iowa State," Bergstrom said. "I look over my other shoulder there was Raheem Black who won Drake last year." One-hundred meters in, it sinks in for Berstrom that he needs to fully kick it into gear.

"Crossing the finish line was the coolest moment of my life," Bergstrom said. "It was a complete rush." He was now the new 400 meter hurdle Drake Relay champion.

On the ground, face buried within his knees Bergstrom came to full realization that he just did what he had only dreamed off. "All I could think was I did it, I did it, It's done," Bergstrom said.

"It was all a blurred dream feeling," Bergstrom said. **"A day I will never forget."**



GOAL: WIN A TITLE AT DRAKE

"A goal I had coming into this year's season was to win a medal at the Drake Relays. I ended up winning a medal in the 4x1. I'm also trying to win a title at state this year. That would make my senior year."

-Kyle Timmerman '13

GOAL: RUN 2 MILES IN 10 MINUTES

"My goal this season was to run under 10 minutes in the two mile and qualify for state. I trained harder than I ever had before even though there were lots of cancellations that changed the schedule."

-David Rice '14

GOAL: BEAT PERSONAL GOAL

"My goal was to excel as a shot put thrower and reach my personal goal of 45 feet. I got increasingly better and ended the season throwing 46' 4" (my personal record)."

-Hezekiah Applegate '15

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◢Dominant *After the race, Jack Bergstrom, a sophomore hugs his parents in the stands. Bergstrom had the fastest time on the team for 400 meter hurdles, with a 52.96. photo by Liera Bender*

◢1. *Transfering energy from his lower body, junior Connor White launches the discus toward the field. Practices involved rehearsing the steps, repeating arm motions and finally throwing each disc. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢2. *Walking down the track, senior Ryan Tigges links arms with his mom as his dad videotapes the scene during the senior night ceremony. Senior Night was March 28. photo by Liera Bender*

◢3. *Sophomore Jared Seay jumps at the district meet at home to qualify him for state. At state Seay made it over the bar at 6'2" in the high jump event. photo by Catherine Roby*

◢4. *Freshman Remi Coniconde strides over the hurdle during his shuttle hurdle relay."I just want to say thanks to coach Michael Dana for helping me learn how to three step on hurdles," Coniconde said. photo by Liera Bender*

◢*Spread by Liera Bender and Catherine Roby*

Wartburg, Ankeny **7th**, *Ames, Waukee, Woodward, Valley* **5th**, *Johnston* **4th**, *Jim Duncan (Drake) , Jim Duea Invite (Ames)* **4th**, *Drake Relays,*

SNOWBOUND

The numbing wind blew across the snow strewn track, making an already challenging task infinitely more difficult. The girls' track team took the reins and shoveled the track during the abnormally snowy track season for training use.

"We couldn't wait around for the track to eventually get plowed," head coach Chris Siewert said. "So as a team builder and a team effort we took our bearings and shoveled the track."

Training time was already strained due to previous weather conditions, and the snow had not been helping. The athletes had practiced inside the school more frequently because of the snow. During the May snow storm, the team even called off running to go to the Summit Middle School pool and do a low-impact workout.

"Moving the snow was definitely a workout on its own," sophomore Ellen Bennett said. **"We had a group running around on the track while another group was shoveling, and we traded off running and shoveling."**

The girls didn't shovel the track only once. "We actually shoveled it three times," junior Kenzie Foldes said. "The D-Crew (distance crew) shovelled it twice before the season." In previous years, the boys' track team has shoveled the track for use in-season and during the off-season.

While the benefits were visibly physical, the mental toughness of the girls certainly rose.

"At the time, it didn't feel like much," sophomore Sarah Kromminga said. **"It took some time, but it definitely showed us that we could do so much more than we thought we could if we worked together."**

Despite the season's large number of cancelled meets, the team's performance was one to be proud of. "We did things this year that haven't happened in a long time," Siewert said. "We had school records broken, people in state who haven't gone before, and lots of personal records."

Sophomore Jordyn Kleve broke the 3000 and 1500 meter run school records previously held by professional runner Obsie Birru with a time of 10:07.80 and 4:43.6 respectively.

"Jordyn has a lot of natural talent," Foldes said. "She does the same training as everyone else, but she just runs so fast. She was literally built to run."

The girls' track team also sent athletes to nine events at state: the 3000 meter run, 1500 meter run, 800 meter run, 4x800 meter relay, 4x200 meter relay, shuttle hurdle relay, distance medley, high jump, and shot put. The team has not sent anyone to the shot put in state in three years, let alone a sophomore.

"We kind of got a new sense of pride this year," Bennett said. **"Shoveling the track meant more than clearing it. It made us feel empowered and like the track was our place and we owned it."**

GOAL: PUSH MYSELF

"My biggest goal is to beat my only competitor. The girl running next to you is only motivation to beat yourself. I also want to grow as not only a teammate, but a friend and be a sister to my track family."

-Emily Stoen '13

GOAL: GET A VARSITY LETTER

"I want to practice hard, eat right, and be healthier. I want to keep up with my training and push myself harder than I have before."

-Sarah Birkett '14

GOAL: RUN IN DISTRICT MEET

"I wanted to drop five seconds off my 400 time and also run in at least districts. In practice, I tried to keep up with people faster than me to reach my goal."

-Natalie Coomes '15

Dominant. *After hearing the gun, sophomore Maddie MacGregor darts out of her blocks in the distance medley. Her relay team ran a PR with a time of 4:20.21 and placed second, automatically qualifying for state, at the districts coed meet.* photo by Tyler Fenton

1. *Racing down the curve of her 200 meter dash, junior Ronnoja Ayers works to pass her opponents at the varsity conference meet at Waukee. "I got a PR with 26:37," Ayers said. "I was really surprised I got it because I ran four events that day and was really tired by then."* photo by Tyler Fenton

2. *Receiving the baton from sophomore Abby Puk in her 4x200 meter relay, freshman Maddy Bradley takes off in the state track meet at Drake. "We got 13th. I think I got a personal best for the season as a relay," Bradley said.* photo by Tyler Fenton

3. *Sophomore Keely Larkin turns in the midst of executing her discus throw at the districts meet at Johnston. Larkin qualified for finals in discus and state in shot put.* photo by Tyler Fenton

4. *Freshman Emma Sirfus leaps over the bar in the high jump event at the district meet at home. Her personal record for the year was 4'10."* photo by Tyler Fenton

Spread by Tyler Fenton

TENNIS TROUBLE

Practice makes perfect is a phrase that many struggle with. Typically, the effort needed to constantly practice that hinders most people, but for the tennis team, finding a place to play with the horrible weather was a much larger issue.

Close to a dozen practices were cancelled this year thanks to the unpredictable Iowa weather, leaving the tennis team in a precarious situation. Without enough practices, the team's performance could have gone down substantially.

The team started to make up these days by going to the Aspen tennis courts instead of playing on the school courts. However, indoor courts provide a different tennis experience than the outdoor courts.

"The courts just have a different feel to them," junior Scott Kruse said. Many factors shift when playing indoors as opposed to outdoor tennis. One large factor is the wind, which normally shifts the balls' trajectory outdoors, but does not affect game play indoors.

Another factor is the ceiling to the courts. "**A lot of the crazy lobs, like when you're running backwards, will hit the ceiling and bounce down,**" sophomore Seth Andrews said. Andrews preferred the indoor courts to the unpredictable outdoor experience. **"The courts are painted, and the ball bounces better,"** Andrews said.

Johnston courts were composed of asphalt this season, due to the temporarily unfinished resurfacing operation during the season. The tennis team picked up on the differences when they switched courts.

"The ball bounced differently, that was a transition," junior Derek Fenton said. Specifically, this caused the balls to travel slower and bounce higher than on any other court.

Fenton preferred to play indoors because the finish was similar to that of the other tennis courts they play on during meets. **"But, when we were practicing at a home meet, "** Fenton said, **"I like to play at our place because we'll be more prepared with those courts."**

Traveling to Aspen also cut into the practice time on days where the outdoor courts were not usable. The trip took anywhere from 15 to 30 minutes, limiting the time spent actually practicing on the court. "Traffic was also a real problem," Andrews said. After practice he had to wait for several minutes due to rush hour traffic.

Yet travel was not without its perks for some people. **"Sometimes I had to take people,"** Fenton said. **"That was pretty fun."**

By the end of the season, nine practices had been moved to the Aspen courts, making for an unusual shift from the typical tennis practice routine. The team members bounced back with bold efforts at every one of the meets, but the constant transition between indoor and outdoor courts may have made a bigger impact on the team than anyone thought.

GOAL: FINISH SENIOR YEAR WITH WINNING RECORD

"Last year I had a losing record and and wanted to show improvement this year. I did end up with a winning record."

-Chris Timmerman '13

GOAL: PRACTICE WITH VARSITY

"(Practicing with varsity) shows that I can compete with higher level players. Although it wasn't big, I practiced with varsity one day and I was happy with that."

-Joe Lorber '14

GOAL: IMPROVE SERVE

"You have to have fun with activities you do, and I want to serve better in tennis matches and during practice. I served during practice, outside of practice, and playing doubles with my friends."

-Nick Saluri '15

◢**Dominant**. *Senior Justin Atterberg throws the ball in the air, getting ready to serve to his Urbandale opponenet. Players were able to play on the new tennis courts rebuilt during the fall because of all the cracks in the courts. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**1.** *Stretching his arm, senior A.J. Naanep reaches to hit a high ball. Naanep went on to become the second person in school history to makestate in three years. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**2.** *Preparing to smack the ball across the court, sophomore Seth Andrews gets into position. The inconsistent weather made it difficult for the team to practice. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**3.** *Leaping in the air, junior Vaibhav Shrikaran returns the tennis ball to his opponent from Waukee. Practices varied for each player as there were separate practice schedules for JV and varsity players. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**4.** *Junior Derek Fenton underhands a ball at the JV meet against Waukee. "I have been playing for two years now," Fenton said. "I joined because a bunch of my friends and I wanted to try it." photo by Clara Carlson*

◢*Spread by Kelsey Acheson and Sanjay Koduvalli*

MAKE OR BREAK

The dark clouds started to form and thunder started to roar. Sophomore Eisha Nathwani looks up from the tennis courts, but shrugs it off. **"I was just like 'Whatever,'"** Nathwani said. She continued to play her doubles at the first round of team state alongside her sister, freshman Sheyna Nathwani.

The first set of the doubles against Urbandale was very close. The Nathwani sisters almost beat their opponents, but lost. Then the second set came. Trying to pump themselves up, they fought to win. During the set, however, there was a strike of lightening. **"They kicked us off the court and then we went in the school for 20 minutes,"** Eisha said.

At the team state meet, the team was hoping to win five of their singles. Eisha won hers and was one of the first to be done. **"I won 6-1, 6-2,"** she said. **"It was pretty straightforward."** Feeling good, she went to watch her other teammates, including her sister.

Six singles were played: sophomore Liera Bender, senior Payton Kintz, Eisha, senior Karly Palmer, Sheyna, and sophomore EmmaGrace Walter. If five of these won, the Nathwani sisters would not have to play doubles.

After the match Eisha noticed her sister was playing a senior from Urbandale. If Sheyna won, no doubles would be played. Four singles had already been won, and she was the last one playing. She won the first set, but lost the second one. It all came down to the last set. "It was so close," Eisha said. "But she lost in the tiebreak."

The score at the end was 10-6. "I did feel some pressure during the singles, because that's the one we needed to finish the tournament," she said. "But it was a tough match." It was Sheyna's first time playing at team state.

"For a freshman playing a senior, that's pretty impressive to get into a tiebreak," Eisha said. "I was proud of her, but also bummed that she didn't win."

Sheyna was bummed, too. "It was a little hard to get back on the court," the freshman said. Eisha thought she noticed that Sheyna was feeling down, as well. "Having Eisha as a doubles partner helped a ton."

They were able to cheer each other on. **"I could tell she was upset because usually she's super aggressive,"** Eisha said.

The team waited to hear if the meet would be rescheduled or if they would continue the match somewhere else. The Nathwani sisters ended up going to Seven Flags to play indoors.

Rejuvenated and ready to go, the Nathwani sisters put up a fight, but Urbandale's players barely won, 6-4. "It was really really close," Eisha said. "We still lost, but we did our best."

This meant that the team would not move on to state semifinals. "I'm a little disappointed," Eisha said, "but I still have two years left."

GOAL: HAVE A WINNING RECORD

"I worked over the off season and improved a lot. By doing this, I had a record of ten wins and three losses. Overall, it was a good season, even though the weather was bad."

-Ruchi Shekar '15

GOAL: BE HEALTHY ENOUGH TO PLAY

"I fractured my spine last year during the season and it took six months of therapy before I was cleared to play again. So my goal was to be able to play this year and I achieved it.

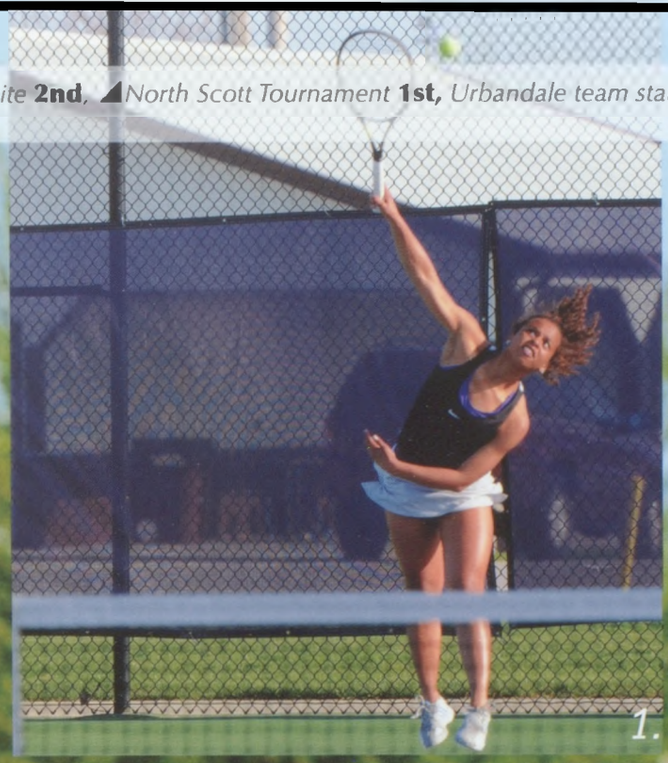
-Megan Bradley '14

GOAL: TO ALWAYS HAVE FUN

"I accomplished my goal by always keeping a positive attitude and a smile whether I won or lost. It made my last season of tennis at Johnston High School a lot of fun."

-Kylie Poulson '13

◢Ft. Dodge **6-5**, JHS Invite **2nd**, ◢North Scott Tournament **1st,** Urbandale team state **4-5**



◢Dominant. *Serving during her singles match, sophomore EmmaGrace Walter plays team state. She began her freshman year playing on JV 2. By her sophomore year, she had moved up to varsity. photo by Laura Schwartz*

***◢1.** Sophomore Liera Bender serves, successfully aceing her Waukee opponent during a singles match. Bender placed third at state, losing a close match to Eve Small of Iowa City, City High. photo by Gabby Ledesma*

***◢2.** Junior Brittany Tran prepares herself for her opponent to return the ball. "I used angle shots and it was an advantage for me because it was harder for the other team to return," she said. photo by Anna Lam*

***◢3.** Lunging to return a ball, sophomore Eisha Nathwani hits it back at her opponent during team state played at home. Both Nathwani and her sister, freshman Sheyna Nathwani, play on varsity together. Eisha holds the number four spot and Sheyna the fifth. photo by Laura Schwartz*

***◢4.** Varsity player Payton Kintz runs to hit a forehand. Kintz ended her senior year by finishing second at districts and being the first Johnston girls' tennis player to qualify four years for state. photo by Gabby Ledesma*

◢Spread by Megan Buckallew and Gabby Ledesma

◢*Jefferson* **6-0**, *Cedar Rapids* **1-2**, ◢*S.E. Polk* **4-0**, ◢*Dallas Center-Grimes* **10-0**, ◢*Glenwood* **6-0**, ◢*Ankeny* **2-1**, ◢*Norwalk* **1-0**, ◢*Fort Dodge* **5-0**, ◢*Dowling Catholic* **4-0**, ◢*Waukee* **1-0**, ◢*Valley West Des Moines* **1-0**, ◢*Ft. Dodge* **4-1**, ◢*Ames* **2-1**

MAKING HISTORY

After making his way down the field, junior Sam Graving gets into an open position just outside the goal. "Someone played him the ball and he chested it to the right and turned and before the ball had even hit the ground he volleyed it in just outside the 18 yard line," junior Calvin Kimrey said, "**It was like something out of FIFA.**" This was one of the many record-breaking goals scored by the team. "**Sam's scissor kick was probably our best goal so far this season,**" senior Krister Anderson said.

Before their season had begun, the team set a goal to break the school record for number of goals scored in one season. "**Our goal was to get at least 75 goals this year,**" said Kimrey, "**we thought it would be really hard.**" Another goal for the team was to have a large goals scored to goals allowed ratio. "I think we're at something like for every 27 goals we score we only allow goal," Anderson said.

When the season began in late March the team won their first game 6-0 which boosted their confidence. "We were running on last year's success and thought we were unstoppable," said Kimrey. But something unexpected occurred: they lost their second game against Cedar Rapids at an invitational. "It was a reality check that we would actually have our work cut out for us this season," Kimrey said. Although they knew they could have beaten Cedar Rapids it helped guide the team back on track and look toward the future.

After its loss the team promised to keep their heads in the game. They took every game for what it was, a chance to showcase their skill and get the win. "As the season progressed we stayed grounded and continued to beat teams 6-0 or 10-0 which really started adding up," Anderson said. Before they knew it, the goals had added up and they had surpassed the previous school record, 75 goals scored in the regular season. "**I was surprised that we reached the mark because if you think about it 75 goals is a lot and I was so proud we had accomplished what we had set out to do in such a small amount of time**," Anderson said.

They finished the regular season strong and ended up only losing the Cedar Rapids game, but rounded up a collection of 90 goals. Among them were astonishing goals like Graving's against Ankeny or Kimrey's against Newton from 25 yards out. "**Personally, I feel that this season has been a very successful year having a 18-1 record with a record breaking goal ratio,**" Graving said.

Their success helped advance the team through both sub-state games against Fort Dodge and Ames and onto state. "**Elvir's goal against Ames in the last sub state game was literally amazing,**" Kimrey said, "**Those are the type of goals we as a team always aim towards scoring.**"

GOAL: MAKE IT TO CHAMPIONSHIPS

"Personally, my goal is to lead us to the state championships again and win that game. We do our best to push each other during our practices and use each game to make us better."

-Ryan Harlow '13

GOAL: LEAVE IT ALL OUT THERE

"This year I really just wanted to leave it all out there with it being senior year. I wanted to go out with no regrets and contribute every way I could. It was my last year and I wanted to go out with a bang."

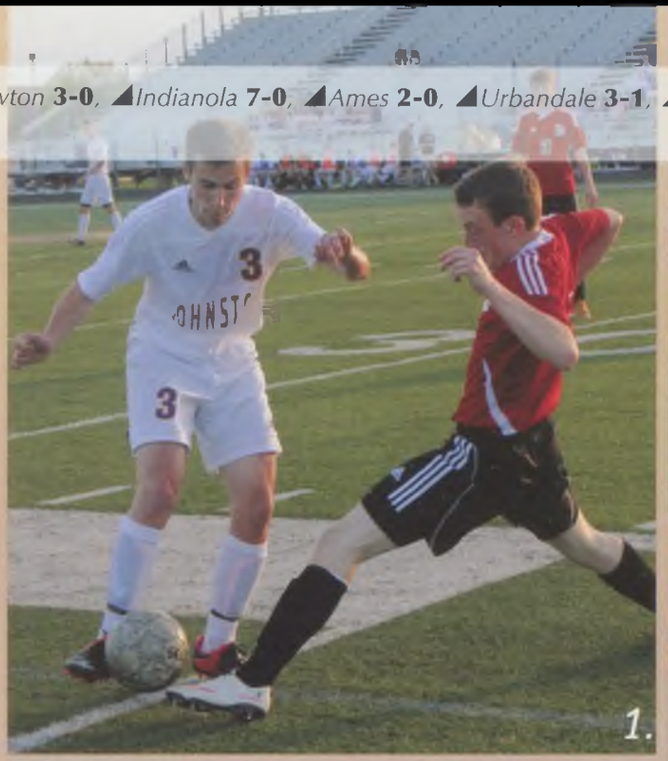
-Matthew Hanstad 13'

GOAL: MAKE VARSITY AND SCORE

"My main goal was to make varsity and after I accomplished that, my goal was to score. I'd like to end the season with at least five goals. The team goal is to win state and I feel we have a good shot at it."

-Myles Anderson 13'

◢*Des Moines North* **10-0**, ◢*Newton* **3-0**, ◢*Indianola* **7-0**, ◢*Ames* **2-0**, ◢*Urbandale* **3-1**, ◢*Mason City* **18-0**,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◢**Dominant**. *Keeping the ball, junior Sam Graving blocks Urbandale from gaining the upper hand. Graving was one of the captains on the varsity team and scored 13 goals in the regular season. "I feel that I am responsible for keeping the team focused and working hard to win state this year," Graving said. photo by Amanda Jensen*

◢**1.** *Fighting to keep the ball against his opponent, Fort Dodge's James Springer, senior Sam Perington makes a move. Perington made varsity for the first time. "It was definitely an honor to make varsity and I have enjoyed every minute of it because I've played with the majority of the people on this team since I was 11." Perington said. photo by Amanda Jensen*

◢**2.** *Junior Michael Siebert tries to maneuver past the Dallas Center-Grimes defender. "We only lost two games all year and we played as a team much better after figuring out what worked," Siebert said. photo by Amanda Jensen*

◢**3.** *Dribbling the ball down the sidelines past the Indianola defenders, senior Spencer Clock makes his way towards the goal. Clock scored two goals in the game, contributing to the 7-0 win. photo by Amanda Jensen*

◢**4.** *Junior Parker Gesiriech steps into the pass to take down Glenwood's Colton McNeel. The strong defense kept Glenwood from scoring the entire game. The final score was 6-0. photo by Katrina Fey*

◢*Spread by Katrina Fey and Amanda Jensen*

◢*S.E. Polk* **1-0**, ◢*Norwalk* **7-0**, ◢*Dallas Center-Grimes* **1-0**, ◢*Des Moines, North* **20-0**, ◢*Pella* **3-0**, ◢*Bettendorf* **2-1**, *Waukee* **0-1**, ◢*Sioux City, North* **6-0**, ◢*Iowa City, West* **2-1**, Ankeny **0-1**, ◢*Des Moines, East* **9-0**

With their feet pounding on the worn turf and hearts racing, the players on the field gave everything they had for the last few seconds of the game against the number one team in the state, Bettendorf. As soon as the time on the final clock read "zero" an excitement of screams and celebration roared throughout the team. The final score was 2-1, Johnston, leaving the girls varsity soccer team undefeated.

As soon as the season was underway everyone could tell the varsity team was strong.

"We all bond and all enjoy being around one another on and off the field," senior Lexi Willie said.

No goals were scored against the team until the sixth game of the season. Everything was set perfectly in their favor. The team performed well together and individually.

Minds were set on gaining the title of undefeated champions. Being more than halfway through their season, the team was 12-0. But that all changed when they faced their toughest game yet against Dowling Catholic.

"It was very tough because a lot of the schools have turf but the conditions of that field were not very nice," Willie said. "We were all very disappointed since it was our first loss of the season."

But the pain did not end there. They were then pushed into a whole week filled with four of the most challenging teams and games in the season.

"It was very weird and hard on us too," junior Rachel Wanniger said.

The original schedule had only three games being played, but the Valley game, being previously cancelled because of a late snow fall, was rescheduled to be played during that week.

"Everyone was really tired," Polson said. **"I had to take a lot of ice baths so I wasn't sore the next day."** Along with the game against Valley, the team also played Waukee 0-1, Sioux City North 6-0, and Iowa City West 2-1.

"The best game was beating Iowa City West," Willie said. "It was definitely a big game and a big test to see how far we had come this season," sophomore Abby Gorsche said.

The team beat Iowa City West 2-1 but it was not any regular win."We've never beat them at Johnston and haven't even scored on them," Willie said. The players of the team were motivated to change history.

"After the first goal was scored I feel like the team kinda felt like a weight was lifted off us," Gorsche said. "Not that we thought it was going to be an easy win or anything, it's just that first goal proved to us that a win was possible if we didn't let up."

The team had a very impressive year finishing with a record of 15-3. They are hoped on taking that skill and talent to succeed at state, but they lost to Iowa City West after a very close game.

GOAL: FINISH SEASON WITHOUT AN INJURY

"Literally the first week of the season, I dislocated my shoulder then I pulled my hamstring. I was way more careful for the rest of the season, that way I was able to play."

-Jennifer Bermingham '15

GOAL: BUILD LASTING FRIENDSHIPS

"This year I was really trying to follow the teams' 'no gossiping' rule and make friendships throughout the season. I mean why go out for school sports if you're not going to have fun"

-Susan Manning '14

GOAL: IMPROVE FOOT SKILLS AND-SHOOTING

In the fall and winter I got a personal trainer and worked hard to get where I am today. I think with dedication and drive I can proceed to get better throughout the coming years.

-Bailey Wilmes '13

anola **5-0**, ◢Ames **2-1**, ◢Urbandale **6-0**, ◢Mason City **5-1**, ◢Valley **2-0**, ◢Fort Dodge **8-0**, Dowling Catholic **1-2**,

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◢**Dominant**. *Freshman Shaya Stubbs dribbles down the field and looks for an open player to pass the ball to. The team lost to Ankeny 0-1.* photo by Clara Carlson

◢**1.** *Receiving the ball with her stomach, junior Kenzie Erwine looks to make her next move. Erwine led the team with most goals scored in a single game with 5 goals against Des Moines North.* photo by Laura Schwarz

◢**2.** *Fighting to regain possession of the ball sophomore Abby Gorsche and junior Paige Elming move past Dowling Catholic's Claire Caliguiri, Gorsche and Elming both playing the back four defensive line.* photo by Laura Schwartz

◢**3.** *Sophomore Erica Thacker kicks the ball, away from her opponent, pushing it up the field. "I feel like we had a pretty strong team this year," she said. "It was fun to be able to work together against some tough weather and competition."* photo by Laura Schwartz

◢**4.** *Senior Allyson Veatch attempts to shield her Urbandale opponent away from the ball. The team expected the game to be a tough match, but ended up winning the game 6-0.* photo by Amanda Jensen

◢Spread by Gabby Ledesma and Megan Buckallew

Pay the Price

Weaving along the twisted streets of Morocco, full of food and flies, junior and senior students enter into a small, white building to be shocked with the sight of hundreds upon hundreds of beautiful, handmade rugs. Rugs have been laid out onto the floor, of all of different sizes and colors. With the offering of each one, a quick, "Waha," meaning yes in Arabic, meant moving to the next room for the real deal.

Accompanied by Señor Gerald Hollingsworth, Señora Norah Olguin and their families, 26 students in different Spanish classes travelled around Spain for spring break. Starting in Barcelona and ending in Madrid, the 13-day trip was utilized to see as much of the country as possible, stopping in eight cities total.

One of these cities was Costa del Sol, on the southern tip of Spain, from which they took a ferry to northern Africa. Turning to the students, "You have seen three continents on this trip," Hollingsworth said.

What was experienced in Africa, however, was new to many. When offered a rug, senior Ethan DeGroot was surprised by the conduct of business. "If you said yes, they took you into a back room and tried to make a deal with you," DeGroot said. "It was interesting because that doesn't happen in the U.S." After being taken to a smaller room with a salesman, the haggling began. "He made me write down a price," DeGroot said. "He told me the starting price was 400 euros and the first thing I said was 80 euros. He said 200, and from there I went to 100. I bought the rug for 120 euros." The atmosphere and the demeanor of the Moroccan men weren't familiar to the students. **"Once you showed interest, they wouldn't let up until you bought it,"** DeGroot said.

When the interest was shown by senior Kenzie Johnson, the salespeople tried whatever it took to make the deal. "There was a large rug I really liked but they found one like it in a different size," Johnson said. Next she, too was taken to a smaller room, along with junior Ally Shoeman and senior Carly Crist with their items. Once the other girls' deals had been made, Johnson was kept alone to haggle. "Their lowest offer was 635 euros, I went 100 and we argued for quite a while," Johnson said. **"His last offer was 350 so I walked away. He wasn't going any lower and I didn't want to give him the satisfaction."**

After crossing the Strait of Gibraltar from Spain to Morocco, senior Kayla Dings has her picture taken by senior Clayton Nebel. The 26 students on the trip got off their African tour bus to take pictures overlooking the Mediterranean Sea before heading into the medina quarter, or the old city with walled-in streets.
photo by Carly Crist

Along the mazelike streets of the Moroccan Medina, or market city, haggling wasn't the only way of life to be different for the American students. "The market grossed me out with all the flies and the blood but the fresh strawberries were probably the best I've ever had," Johnson said. Before eating, the tour director had the berries rinsed with mineral water.

While the trip to Africa was a worthwhile experience, it didn't convince Johnson to leave America and move there. **"It was dirty and smelled weird,"** Johnston said. **"The food was fabulous but I could never live there."**

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◢**Dominant**. *Junior Lauren Stenger plays London bridges, holding hands with student Josephine Kreutzfeldt while another student, Hailey Akinsola, ducks between their arms. Stenger taught a beginners' swimming class at the Summit Pool. "The point of the game is to get the kids more comfortable moving in the water," Stenger said. "For most of them, it's their first time getting into the water without a parent, or anyone else, holding them."* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢**1.** *Out adventuring on a Friday night at Homemakers Furniture, juniors Philip Hauser and Sanjay Koduvalli adjust the chairs' settings to get the perfect foot massage. "It was like a bunch of tiny ants crawling all over my back and pecking at my skin," Hauser said.* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢**2.** *Junior Mikayla Seiler brushes her horse, preparing to take him lounging in the arena at the Cheval Equestrian Center in Grimes. "I've had my horse for almost two years," Seiler said. "Dewey is an off-the-track thoroughbred."* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢**3.** *Pointing to a rock, senior Ivy Wu helps a climber scale the wall at Climb Iowa. Wu has been an instructor at the indoor climbing gym for a year. "Watching children scale a 36-foot wall and knowing that I got to be a part of their journey is an incredible feeling," Wu said.* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢**4.** *Searching through the shelves, junior Sierra Stukenholtz stacks cookbooks in the nonfiction section of the Johnston Public Library. "I'm a newbie," Stukenholtz said. "I'm just a shelver, so I put books away that have been returned. [Working at the library] is nice and quiet and kind of relaxing."* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢**5.** *Sophomores Ruchi Shekar and Natalie Coomes pass out prizes to participants as volunteers at the Eggstravaganza. The event was designed for children eight-years-old and younger to hunt for eggs on the football field, but ended up being in the gym when it began to rain.* photo by Hannah Van Zee

◢*Spread by Carly Crist and Hannah Van Zee*

◢Mixed match

Senior Bailey Comegys has been playing soccer since first grade. "All of my friends in the first grade played [soccer], and I just started playing it too because I wanted to fit in with everyone else, and I ended up loving it," Comegys said. "I've played on a coed team before, for about six or seven years. All the guys feel the need to go easy on me, but I play coed for a reason. I play for the intensity, I guess."

Mock Flurry

Given a second chance, Identity Crisis, made the most of it.

The team, one of nine from the high school, lost in the semifinals of districts to another Johnston team, The Big Red Fire Trucks. However, because of the harsh weather conditions that day some teams forfeited.

The state mock trial organization decided to host another district event. An odd number of teams entered, so Identity Crisis was asked to make the field even. "**The second districts were our second and only chance to show that we deserved that spot at state, a chance to prove ourselves after six years of mock trial,**" senior Courtney Norelius said.

After thinking they did not make state, team members began to regroup for the second district the Friday after spring break. One member, junior Sanjay Koduvalli, had traveled to Washington, D.C. for a national TSA conference with adviser Mitch Eagles. He was supposed to fly back Wednesday night.

Then came the snow. A foot in some places in the Midwest and Northeast, but lesser amounts in the D.C. area. However, it was enough to cause chaos at the airport. "**It literally snowed half an inch and the whole town acted like there had just been a blizzard,**" Koduvalli said.

The flight was postponed until Thursday. Upon arriving at the airport Thursday, the flight attendant could not find the tickets. "We were carrying all our luggage, we had checked out of our hotel, we had no place to stay, and I was seething over the fact that we did not have tickets," Koduvalli said.

Knowing he might not make it back in time for the trial, Koduvalli called his teammate junior Aditi Dinakar. "**He called me, and my first reaction was 'oh my god,**" Dinakar said. Koduvalli played two key parts on the team: attorney and witness. Not having him would make it hard to qualify for state.

"We had a meeting discussing the situation and just staying calm together, focusing on working hard to have everything as prepared as possible," Norelius said. Norelius was the alternate. "It was very scary because these rounds determined if we went to state so it was very important that I got everything memorized," she said. "**Not going to lie, I panicked a bit because I only had one day to learn the part.**"

Fortunately, Koduvalli made it back to Des Moines Thursday just before midnight. Friday, the team won districts and advanced to state.

Snow was a blessing and a curse.

Immigration

Medical Malpractice

Privacy

Property Damage

Injury

CASES WE LOVE

◢**Dominant**. *Mock trial team, Guilty of Being Awesome, lay around its third place trophy from state in a circular formation. Four Johnston teams made it to state. photo by Kenny Varley*

◢**1.** *Senior Kim Hughes observes sophomore Regen Siems as he helps himself to a donut at their weekly student council meeting. Junior Hezekiah Applegate brought in donuts from Dahl's to share. photo by Katrina Fey*

◢**2.** *Sophomores Patrick Holz and Tori Calhoun pose for admirers after being chosen prom king and queen at the Best Buddies Prom. Along with the title, they got to meet Miss Iowa. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**3.** *Sophomores Alexandra Reiher and Liera Bender mix different colors of frosting for their cupcakes at the yearbook sleep over at junior Kelsey Acheson's house. photo by Kelsey Acheson*

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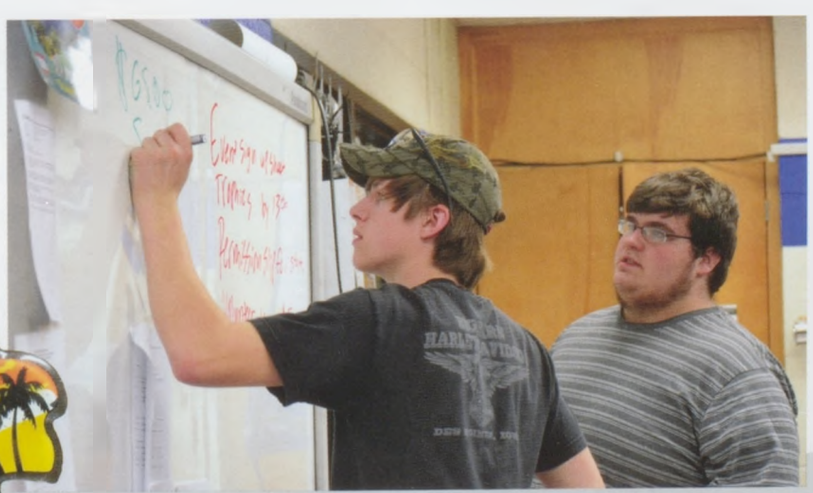


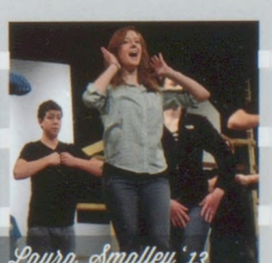
Juniors Sam Thomas and Nick Ward write down information on TSA's trip to Florida for nationals. Students could qualify for nationals either by becoming a state officer or placing first, second or third at a state event. At the national event in Florida in June, students will participate in events such as construction, structural, problem solving, engineering and over 60 other categories. Junior Sanjay Koduvalli will run for national TSA president. *photo by Kelsey Acheson*

Olivia Jenkins '14

Misty Miller '13

Logan Walkup '13

Ariel Needham '14



Laura Smalley '13

◢*Spread by Swathi Somisetty and Katrina Fey*

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Math Mode

Eraser after eraser, a math problem is finally solved. The pink shavings lay on the white paper, smeared and smudged with graphite. Math has always been solved through trial and error, the good old-fashioned way, with pencil and paper. **"I know when I have paper I can always find everything, 'cause it's in my backpack,"** junior Jordan Nicolet said. However, since the iPads arrived in January, everything in the math department changed.

Students used paper and pencil for tests only; everything was electronic. The three-pound book was replaced with the digital version and the heavy notebooks were replaced with GoodNotes. Although taking a book home was optional, students figured out how to go completely digital. "It keeps me organized because I can have folders for each chapter," junior Ellie Wallace said.

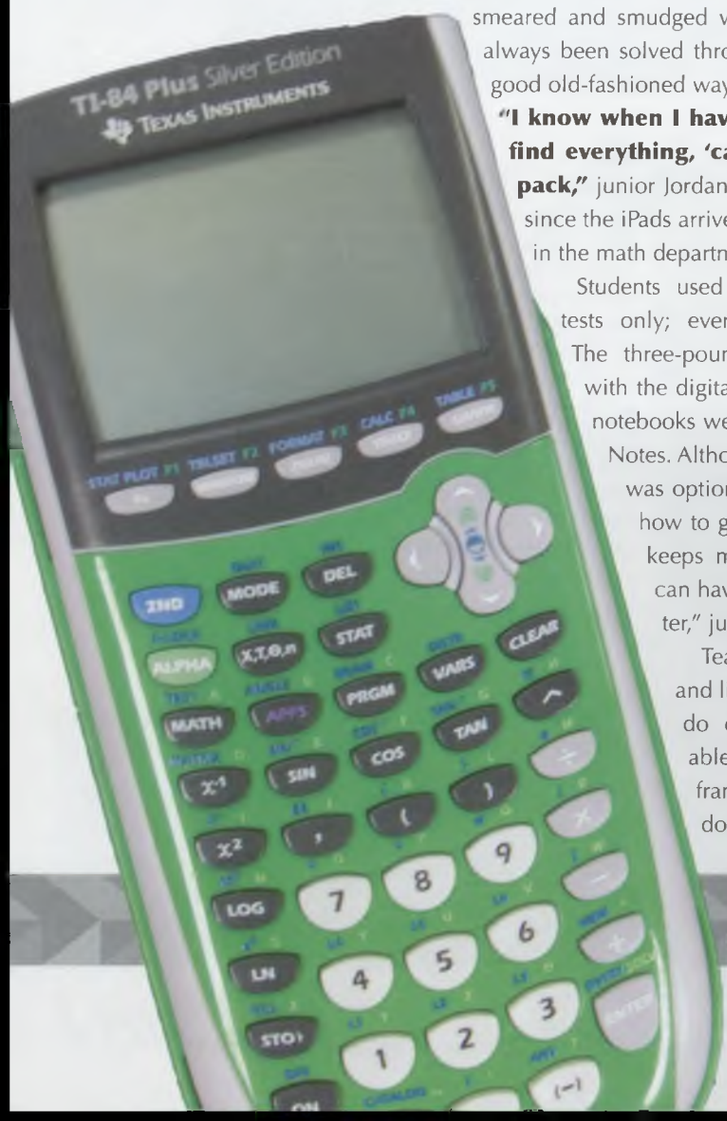
Teachers provided videos and links that helped students do every problem imaginable. PatrickJMT and WolframAlpha eliminated any doubts on unsolvable math problems that students struggle with.

Teachers could write on the iPad and work out problems from their desks, which then were projected onto a screen. **"It's easier to learn because we can work on our own things at the same time,"** sophomore Katie Gay said.

However, there were downfalls to having the iPads, problems seemed to arise everyday. From day one, issues over how to multi-task and switch between the HMH Fuse app, containing books for Algebra I, II, and Geometry, and GoodNotes ensued. "Swapping between apps, it's annoying cause it's just back and forth, and then it takes ten seconds to work again," sophomore Sachin Gupta said.

Administration did not allow updates to the apps, which would have eliminated crashes to the programs, and sometimes led to the loss of homework assignments and notes. Downloads were also lengthy. **"I'd rather do pen and paper because I learn better when I write with my hand,"** senior Andrew Schwaderer said. **"I can't read what I write on the iPad."**

Pixels of color illuminate the next problem. A blue stylus swipes across the page as a new neon yellow sheet of notes appears. With the click of a button, all of the mistakes are gone and a shining answer stands alone.



Calculator Clicks

The use of calculators was the only thing that did not change with the integration of iPads. Most students preferred to stick to the old school calculators rather than use one of the various calculator apps. ◢ *Spread by Bonnie Le Page and Laura Schwartz*

◢Dominant *Working on the warm-up of a review of imaginary numbers, sophomore Ben Poss sits in Julie Probst's Algebra 2/Trig class. "I really enjoy imaginary numbers because it's a lot like my imaginary math skills," Poss said. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢1. *Christian Dorrance, a sophomore, welds two pieces of thin metal together in the Shielded Metal Arc Welding class. He used a technique called oxy-fuel, which used a hot flame. photo by Bailey Pierotti*

◢2. *In Clothing Seminar, senior Kelly Ridenour puts the finishing touches on her apron. "My apron wasn't that difficult for me. I have been sewing for six or seven years," Ridenour said. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢3. *In Woodworking, senior Sebastian Reiser stains a quilt rack. He worked on it all January and February and most of March and was finally on the finishing stage. Photo by Laura Schwartz*

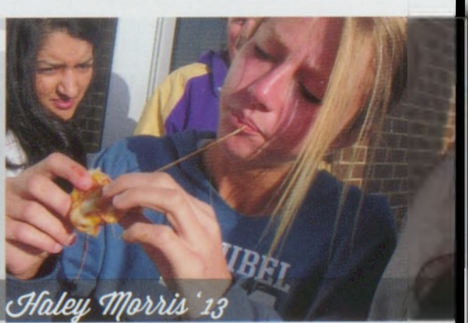
◢4. *Junior Peyton Sheerin strikes the kick boxing pads that senior Mitch Corbin holds. The Armed Forces came to all the P.E. classes to teach self-defense and team building. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢5. *In AP French senior Cynthia Tice reads outloud from "L'enfant Noir," a story of a young man growing up in Guinea and his study abroad in France. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢Pizza Picnic

Track 6 PE with Dave Beason involved the outdoors. Students made pizza over an open flame for one of the cooking activities. "It tasted like regular pizza, but it was pretty doughy, and when other people besides Beason tried to make it they burnt it," senior Haley Morris said. "The best part was being able to eat in school and not be starving until lunch."

Adam Richman '13



Haley Morris '13

French Friends

In late April, a class of French foreign exchange students took a week-long visit to Johnston. Each foreign exchange student was paired with a student enrolled in French foreign language at JHS, to live with and shadow at school.

In addition to school, the students went to many other outside events together, including restaurants, bonfires, and soccer games. Everything was new to the exchange students. They experienced everything from yellow school buses and deep fried mac and cheese to shopping and American pop music, for the first time.

"The whole foreign exhange program is quite the experience," sophomore Selena Young said, "not just for the foreign exchange students, but the Johnston students who got the chance to meet and interact with them."

In addition to the different cultural experience, the French students were intrigued by the littlest things. **"They like buses, yellow school buses,"** Young said. "They are sort of like an American symbol, something they don't have in France." Young hosted French student Theo Roncin.

The students were also shocked by size and appearance of the hamburgers. Because of all the hype of American obesity in the media, the French assumed McDonald's hamburgers would be gigantic and were sad to realize they are the same size here as they are in France.

Although the size of the hamburgers might be the same, many things are not. "(Pierre Jules) didn't get a true sense of American people until we went to Walmart, that was funny," junior Blake Singbush said. Jules was hosted by sophomore Liera Bender.

"The stores are really great," Jules said. "Far greater than in France."

Superstores are something they do not have in France. **"I took Theo to a Target, and he was like 'What is this? You guys have food and clothing in the same store?'"** Young said.

Even though the students' time here was limited, it was packed with activity. "My favorite thing was when we went to Zombie Burger," Young said. "They don't have that (in France) so they were all looking at the menu like 'Ew what is this, this is so gross.' But they ended up liking it."

French exhange students Axel Arnaud and Gaulthier Chataing arrive at the school where they are picked up by their hosts. Arnaud spent the week with sophomore Seth Andrews, and Chataing stayed with junior Ana Duarte. photo by Alexandra Reiher

Senior Sanna Rasmussen hung out with many of the exchange students. She also enjoyed taking them to Zombie Burger, as well as Skyzone. **"Two things they were appalled by: deep fried mac and cheese and trampolines,"** Rasmussen said.

A group of students took the French students mini-golfing and to the mall. Superstores wowed them, and the mall was much of the same story. They have malls in France, but from their eyes, everything in America seemed like novelties.

"(The students) were all really nice, and very funny," sophomore Alma Montes said. "The 'last night' bonfire was so much fun and many great memories were made."

After the French students left, social media forms, like Twitter and Facebook, were used for them to stay connected with their new American friends.

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◢**Dominant.** *To complete Silver Cord hours, junior Paige Elming volunteers at the baseball fields in Lew Clarkson Park by preparing soda and other refreshments. Elming went to the fields every Wednesday and some Mondays. "It's a really fun way to volunteer," she said. "I can be with my friends and interact with people while learning good leadership skills."* photo by Katrina Fey

◢**1.** *Senior Sam Schade donates blood at the school's biannual blood drive run by staff from Lifeserve Blood Center. Schade donated blood all three years of high school.* photo by Adelisa Turnadzic

◢**2.** *Sophomore Taylor Hall works on a craft she found on Pinterest. During the project, Hall used a photo she had previously taken in Italy and put it in a jar full of vinegar, water and yellow food coloring to create a vintage effect. "I do a lot of crafts when I'm feeling stressed out and emotional," Hall said. "This wasn't really the best quality, but it helped me deal with stress. Therefore, it was a success."* photo by Kate Allender

◢**3.** *Teaming up, junior Maren Bettis and senior Kenzie Johnson play foosball at the cast party following their final performances of "Thoroughly Modern Millie." Bettis had a minor part of the ensemble and Johnson played The Pearl Lady.* photo by Adelisa Turnadzic

◢**4.** *As part of the youth group at St. Paul Presbyterian Church, junior Kelsey Kramer picks up logs and sticks and hauls them to the backyard of an elderly couple. "My relationship with them is one I will always cherish," Kramer said. "We are very close, and I see them as my grandparents. I would do it again in a heartbeat." Kramer, with the help of a few other students, spent two hours helping with yard work.* photo by Adelisa Turnadzic

◢**5.** *Junior Samantha Long and exchange student Marie Bonnetain eat cupcakes at Scratch Cupcakery in West Des Moines. This was just one of the experiences the Bonnetain partook in while she was visiting.* photo by Adelisa Turnadzic

◢*Spread by Alexandra Reiher and Adelisa Turnadzic*

◢Passionately playing

From a young age, junior Kyla Grau loved music. Grau started playing piano at age five and began formally teaching when she turned 15. "I decided to teach because I love kids and piano," Grau said. "I thought it would be fun to teach someone how to play and appreciate music." Recently, Grau has taken a break from teaching but hopes to get back to it soon. "I stopped because I got busy with work and school," Grau said, "but I do want to continue with music in the future. As of right now, I'm planning to go to college as a music major and hopefully start teaching again."

TOP TAPPERS

Top Tappers

Shuffle, ball, change. Falap, step, toe, heel. To most people, the world of dance is completely alien. However, when choir director Eric Shepard decided to include complex tap dancing sequences in the musical "Throughly Modern Millie," the cast had to adapt.

Tap dancing dates back to the mid-1800s. It is characterized by using your feet as musical instruments. "Tap, it really is an auditory skill," senior Courtney Norelius said. **"You really have to listen to the sounds and move your body at the same time."**

During auditions, Shepard looked for girls with previous dance experience for the roles in a group called the Speed Tappers. These dancers were featured twice during the musical with both performances including vocals and tap. One occurred in Act I when Millie has to take a speed test to get a typing job. The Speed Tappers accompany Millie on typewriters which leads into a complicated tap routine.

Choreographer Emma Henry, a graduate, and Norelius had to give the group a crash course in the complex tap routines. "We taught them the dances and if we had problems with a move or sound we would review it several times," Norelius said, "starting with a slower speed and working our way up."

Henry made the choreogrpahy difficult on purpose to make the dance sqeuences visually appealing for the audience. **"At first I thought the choreography would be too challenging for the Speed Tappers, as only half of them had previous tap experience,"** Henry said.

In order to pick up the difficult choreography The Speed Tappers dedicated hours to rehearsing, even adding extra practices on top of the regular weekly musical rehersals. "It kept getting better and better," sophomore Barbie Sullivan said. "We practiced a lot and Emma made videos for us to practice at home."

Everything came full circle when the girls performed their routines during the musical. "By the end, the audience wasn't able to tell the Speed Tappers with previous experience from those who had never tapped before," Henry said. **"The practice paid off and every single dancer looked fabulous."**

Not for the Life of Me

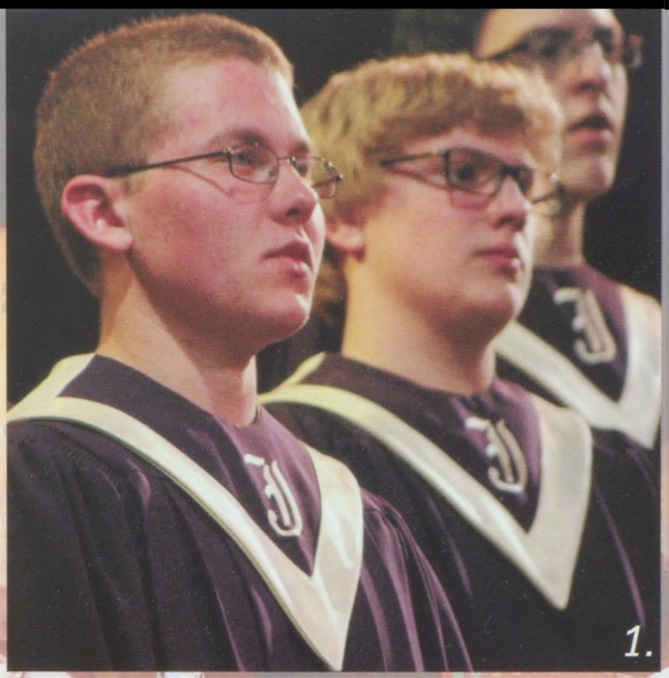
Forget About the Boy

Only in New York

The Speed Test

Gimme Gimme

SING SONG



◢**Dominant** *Striking her ending position, senior Laura Smalley poses in front of the Moderns. The spring musical, "Thoroughly Modern Millie", was preformed three times. photo by Katelyn Lunders*

◢**1.** *Performing during the final choir concert, junior Kyle Chapman, sophomore Spencer Jenkins and junior Josiah Mielke sing "Wayward Son" by Kansas. Eric Shepard and Samantha Robillard directed the concert that featured all of the choirs. photo by Kate Allender*

◢**2.** *All dressed up in show choir attire, junior Lydia Sinclair looks toward the back of the bus. Impact show choir took a trip to Branson, Missouri, for the nationals competition. photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**3.** *Senior Heath Dannen and junior Cameron Redshaw work on their robot. During state TSA held at Adventureland Inn April 15-16. photo by Senad Besic*

Immediately after school, Spanish Club members, president Erin Conlan, Allison Clark and Jason Koenigsberg, gather to pick up their piñatas. Members made piñatas at an earlier meeting. After filling them, the piñatas were hung from the stairwell and the members swung at them with a baseball bat. "I have always wanted to leave a mark. The taco (piñata) is my way of doing that," senior Erin Conlan said. *photo by Elizabeth Reiher*

Melia Black '13

Brian Brass '15

Jon Caracci '14

Courtney Norelius '13

Sam Huisinga '14

◢Spread by Elizabeth Reiher and Claire Sevenich

Veteran Voices

The four Vietnam veterans, Bob Bransfield, Dick Griffin, Steve Mulcahy and Roger Elliot, are observed as students slowly funnel into the auditorium. Each one introduces himself, stating his highest ranking and then moving on to the next person. Then they each share their experiences and told their stories.

"I really liked their presentation because when I read the textbook in class, it just seemed like a fictional story," junior Emily Stevens said. "After the presentation, I gained a better understanding of the war. It also felt more real since we got to meet people who were actually there."

A group of Vietnam war veterans visits juniors in US history each year to share their stories and provide students with a learning experience.

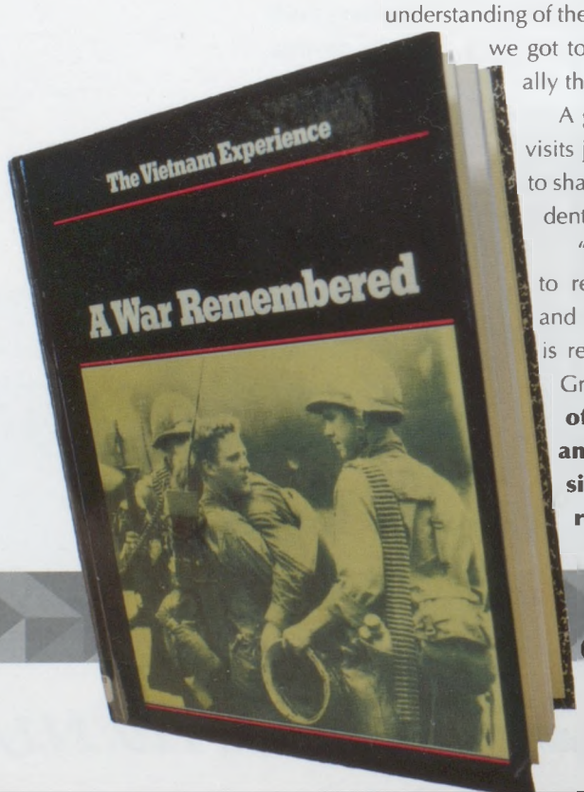
"Our goal for the students is to relate to ancestral experiences and have perspective on what war is really like," US History Thomas Griffin said. **"My dad was one of the war veteran speakers and he really tries to emphasize how young the veterans really were. They are out of high school and like immediately go to war."**

Prior to going to see this presentation, students had covered Vietnam War material in class and viewed the documentary, *Dear America: Letters Home*. Later, they were also required to write an essay over the entire unit. "This was a useful experience to write my paper because I used the textbook for a lot of the hard facts and information, but listening to the troops helped me incorporate the emotional side," Stevens said.

They were also asked to brainstorm a dozen questions to ask the veterans. However, during the presentation, only a few students actually asked their questions.

Afterwards, students were able to observe artifacts from the war the troops had brought in. There was a variety of items such as statues, pictures, magazines and a yearbook.

"This is a great program to have around spring break to engage students," Griffin said. **"It is a very valuable experience because it is an engaging way for students to interact with content and hear someone who was actually at the war, other than always listening in the classroom environment."**



Battle Book

Vietnam books were brought in by the veterans as artifacts to share with the students. After the presentation, students were welcome to observe artifacts and ask questions. ◢ *Spread by Madison Boes and Swathi Somisetty*

◢**Dominant**. *A soldier walks toward a village in the distance to investigate the billowing smoke. The photo was taken by Dick Grifin when he was on duty in the Vietnam War and wasshared with the juniors during the presentation. photo provided by Dick Griffin*

◢**1.** *Sophomore Brandy Hayen arranges blades of grass into a peace sign. She drew her arrangement as an environmental drawing for Drawing 1. photo by Kate Allender*
◢**2.** *Trying not to fall out of step, junior Lauren Stenger jumps rope in Track 5 PE. "For part of the class we got to design and do our own workouts," Stenger said. photo by Kate Allender*
◢**3.** *Senior Isabella Engblom reviews content to prepare for the AP Psychology exam. In the AP Psychology course, students studied different parts of the human mind. photo by Swathi Somisetty*
◢**4.** *Sophomore Cooper Maahs and senior Taylor Slack participate in a improv scene during acting class. In their scene, Slack was a pirate ship captain who threw Maahs off his ship. photo by Kate Allender*
◢**5.** *With excitement, senior Makayla Mawhinney receives her medal after the last choir concert. Each senior was rewarded with a medal for completion. photo by Kate Allender*

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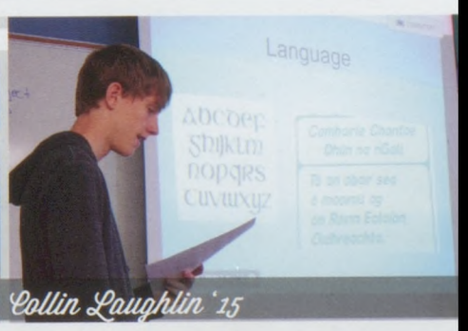
◢Sociology Places

Junior Jack Kaputska and Jordan Weddington discuss what culture to do their project on in sociology, taught by Kelly Coleman. The students partnered up and divulged into a culture of their choice. Each group filled out Wissler's Universal Culture Outline for their culture and made a Power point to share the information with the class. After the presentations there, was an open-note quiz over the shared information.

Jordan Weddington '15 & Jack Kaputska '14



Collin Laughlin '15

Power of Suggestion

Senior Kim Hughes waits in the mob of students outside the auditorium doors. They open and she scrambles to a seat. Luckily she found one front and center. Several parent volunteers begin announcing the winners of small prizes. Finally, the moment Hughes has been waiting for arrives. The lights drop, the mysterious music is cued, and a multi-colored disco ball starts spinning. The hypnotist, Ray Thompson, emerges from the curtains.

The hypnotist's act, along with a raffle drawing were part of after prom. Everyone who came was entered into the drawing, but only seniors could participate in the act. Students assembled outside the auditorium 30 minutes prior to 3:00, when the doors were to open. They were hopeful to win a prize or maybe even have a chance to be hypnotized.

After spending a few hours at after prom, some students decided to leave. But even after playing several minute-to-win-it games and racing through inflatable courses, Hughes and her friends stayed.

Instead, when 3 o'clock rolled around, the girls pushed through the mob of students in the commons, scrambling to get a good seat for the final event of after prom.

Patiently waiting for the prizes to be won, Hughes debated whether to participate in the hypnotist's act. On one hand she could be embarrassed, but she was looking forward to the experience. Hughes decided to participate when Storm called for senior volunteers.

She, along with a few dozen seniors slid through the aisles and hesitantly walked up the stairs. Bailey Comegys was another participant. "It was definitely not in my comfort zone," Comegys said. **"I am not one to get up in front of a crowd like that, especially my peers. But I thought, 'What the heck I'm graduating.'"** She sat down and waited as the hypnotist gave very specific directions to the participants and the audience.

He told everyone to look at his nose and to relax. After about a minute of this, many of the participants begin to close their eyes and drop their heads. "Everything felt really heavy," senior Erin Conlan said. "My limbs and my head, and I just wanted to fall asleep."

Smiling at the crowd, seniors Timmy Morrissey and Kirpal Dhugga pose for a photo after being crowned prom king and queen. "[Being crowned prom king] is pretty honoring because only a handful of people earn it" Morrissey said. "It was cool that my brother and I won it back to back years. photo by Kylie Le Page

When it was evident who was subjected to the hypnotism and who was not, Thompson dismissed those who were still conscious. **"I was a little nervous because I actually wanted to be hypnotized, and I didn't want to be the one kicked off the stage,"** Comegys said. She settled her fears and remained on stage for the duration of the show, unlike Hughes who was excused.

"I was sad I didn't get to go into hypnosis. I was really looking forward of making a complete fool of myself in front of everyone," Hughes said. Out of the several students who originally went up, only 18 were put under the hypnotist's charm.

When the show was over, Thompson woke the students from their trance. Watching from the audience, Hughes remained optimistic that in the future she would have another chance to be hypnotized.

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◢**Dominant.** *Being blown back by the wind, senior Lexi Willie struggles to get to senior Mimi Nguyen's car to go out to lunch. Willie, Nguyen and senior Addie Cooper decided to go to El Mariachi for lunch and came prepared for the snow with coats and an umbrella. "I can't believe it snowed in May, thanks Iowa!" Willie said. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**1.** *Showing the judge that he has successfully balanced six die on a popsicle stick, senior Josh Ried participates in one of the various "Minute to Win it games" at after prom. Students could win different colored tickets to redeem prizes or get a chance to win money in the money blowing machine. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**2.** *Gathering around teacher Chris Beguhn, the green team, hosted by middle school teacher Kate Leo, hears what its prize is for winning senior challenge. The team won a $50 voucher to Orange Leaf which they spent later that week. Leo's team also won Rock Around the Clock earlier in the year. photo by Anna Lam*

◢**3.** *Pretending to grind, juniors Brenda Nguyen and Luna Nguyen laugh and enjoy their night at prom. Principal Brent Riessen placed a ban on grinding and other sexually suggestive dances at prom and encouraged kids to dance face-to-face. photo by Kylie Le Page*

◢**4.** *Posing for a "selfie" sophomore Alyson Bowen holds a peach smoothie while sophomore Betsy Coy takes the picture. The girls were at sophomore Barbie Sullivan's 16th birthday party where they had a sit-down dinner that included steak and a personalized from scratch cupcake. photo by Gabby Ledesma*

◢**5.** *Dancing to traditional Nepalese music, sophomore Aryaa Regmi shares her culture with attendees of the 11th annual Asian Heritage Festival at the state capitol complex. Thirteen different countries were represented at the festival. They performed different dances and sold food and items from their country. photo by Anna Lam*

◢*Spread by Bailey Perotti and Anna Lam*

◢Soccer Man

"I just like how there are never any slow moments in the game. It's fun to play as a team and help each other out. I've stuck with soccer for so long because many of my friends play as well and I couldn't imagine not playing," sophomore Nick Lee said. Lee has been playing soccer for Johnston since he was young. All the years payed off once he made the high school team. Lee hopes to play in college.

TECHY TROPHY

Techy Trophy

The Technology Student Association received a unique opportunity to make the trophies for the state TSA competition. "State TSA talked to all of the advisors, trying to give the local chapters opportunities to use their skills they developed to create a product," junior Sam Thomas said. "The Johnston Chapter was the only one that seemed willing to do this task."

TSA advisor Mitch Eagles discussed the project with the TSA officers. After getting their approval, he volunteered to make the plaques that would serve as trophies.

The students got to making a prototype, and sent it to the board for approval. They decided to use their laser engraver to engrave the plaques. Students received a wooden plaque for lower levels of awards. If they won, a plexiglass plaque mounted on wood was placed into the trophy case at their school.

The members of TSA cut blanks from oak and walnut pieces that were either purchased or donated to them by a member of the community. The weeks were spent continuously running the laser. **"We were running smoothly until our laser broke down and we became very rushed for time,"** Thomas said.

The approaching deadline caused several mishaps. By the time the students got the prototype approved, the countdown to state had begun. "We were left with probably about three weeks or so to make all of them," Thomas said.

On top of the time restraints, there were only a few students involved in the trophy making process. Since there were over 400 plaques to be made, not all of them were finished. **"It was our job (as student officers) to make sure (the trophies) got done,"** junior Nick Ward said.

Next year, they plan to work together with other chapters to make a product as a whole. **"Since our school is one of the few schools with a laser engraving machine, we will need to be involved in order to burn the words and logo onto the wood,"** Thomas said. Waukee volunteered to help out by creating the wood blanks for Johnston to engrave.

Though machines cost about 50 to 20 thousand dollars TSA saved a lot of money by pitching in to create the trophies for the state TSA competition.

Structure

Vex Robotics

Fashion Design

CO2 Dragster

Gliders

PLENTY OF PROJECTS

◢**Dominant.** *Getting ready for TSA nationals, sophomore Elliot Suiter sands down his CO_2 car. Suiter and five others are attended nationals for TSA this year. photo by Kylie Le Page*

◢**1.** *Preparing for her scene in the spring play acting showcase, sophomore Katie Brandon does a last-minute touch up on her hair. Brandon performed as Alice in a parody of "Twilight" and helped with other cast members' stage makeup and hair. photo by Kate Allender*

◢**2.** *Sophomore Jacob Orr plays his trumpet in "Celtic Dances" during the last band concert of the year. photo by Kate Allender*

◢**3.** *Senior Ethan Marshall and junior Jason Koenigsberg help take down photo club contest entries. "I was surprised mine won because it was so simple," Marshall said. photo by Kate Allender*

Junior Evan Trainer prepares to film a horror scene for film club as Madison Case brushes out Thomas Garduno's monkey mask. In their film, Garduno turned from a normal person into an ape. Film Club met every Thursday after school and created about 20 films. The club started its own YouTube channel TheKungFuBikerMafia. *photo by Kate Allender*

Vivian Wu '13

Karli Killian '15

Mallarie Goodale '14
Sarah Margolin '14
Sarah Ross '14

Nathan Ferguson '15

Camden Van Brocklin '14

◢*Spread by Kate Allender and Kylie Le Page*

1.

Vex Check

The drum line rolls their sticks across their snare drums, following behind the president of the William J. Krone Memorial committee. They march into the industrial technology room with a jumbo check, written for $3,140.

The grant was awarded to the engineering department to purchase Vex Robotics sets to replace the Fischertechnik sets they used before. "We needed the money for the Vex sets because the Project Lead the Way curriculum is changing over to Vex," engineering teacher Rhys South said. The teachers were told in the 2011-2012 school that they needed to adopt Vex or else the advancing curriculum would leave them behind.

The robotics sets are used in the Principles of Engineering and Computer Integrated Manufacturing classes as well as by TSA.

The switch to Vex was received differently by the students. "The switch needed to happen," senior Tyson Wieland said. "**Fischertechnik doesn't offer the new opportunities that Vex is able to provide. You have more possibilities with Vex.**"

Some, like Senior Erik Rasmussen, did not feel the transition was the best idea. "I think Fischertechniks was more simple. Everything fit together and it made building more streamlined."

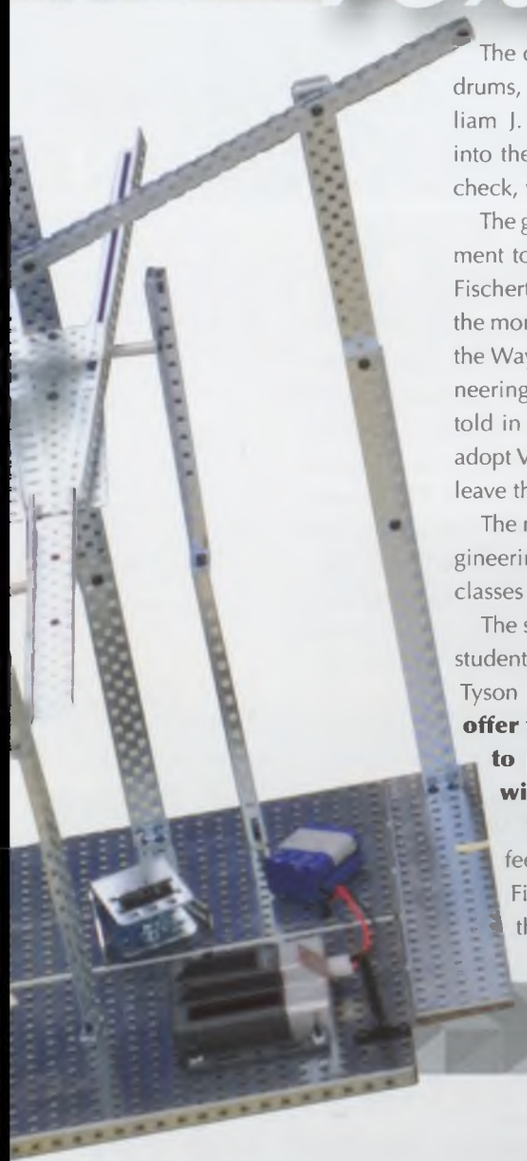
The difference between Vex and Fischertechnik is more than just the materials it is made out of. **"Vex has a lot more complicated metal parts than Fischertech,"** Rasmussen said. "It also requires the use of hammer and screw drivers, whereas with Fischertech we just needed our hands."

Vex robotics has its own code to make its parts do different things. "Vex's computer program is more complicated," junior Brandon Gabbert said, "but it allows for a larger variety of ways to manipulate the engine to make the parts move."

The POE class used Vex for a plethora of different projects. "We are using Vex right now to make marble sorters," junior Phil Hauser said.

Vex has worked well for some students. "We've worked with vex twice this year because we only just got it a couple of months ago," junior Jared Van Langen said. "We did a probot project, where we built a robot that had to pick up an object and carry it a certain distance."

Regardless of the opinions on Vex versus Fischertechniks, the students still learned useful techniques. "Vex has been a similar process to Fischertech," engineering teacher Josh Heyer said. "**In the end, students are learning a more life-applicable program and enjoying it.**"



Robot Rumble

The POE class built marble sorters using vex robotics as their final project. This new technology was also used for classes like Computer Integrated Manufacturing and organizations like TSA. ● *Spread by Anna Lam and Tyler Fenton*

Dominant. *Junior Connor Westlake begins to screw in a part of his marble sorter for Principals of Engineering. "Building our marble sorter is really challenging, but the difficulty is really pushing our problem solving," Westlake said.* photo by Tyler Fenton

1. *Junior Dani Lorenz shares her PSA about anorexia nervosa. "I hoped to teach others in my class how severe and common [anorexia nervosa] is in our society," Lorenz said.* photo by Anna Lam

2. *Junior Christopher McGinnis hands senior Laura Ausenhus a slice of breakfast pizza to serve to a Dragon Cafe customer. Culinary 3 students experienced what was like to run a restaurant by selling food.* photo by Anna Lam

3. *Rearranging the cards, juniors Ariel Needham and Hadassah Smith try to get the elements in the correct order. "We're working with the decomposition of uranium; it helps us understand how the process works." Needham said.* photo by Anna Lam

4. *In PE, reaching for a low ball, junior Mikayla Seiler plays tennis. Track 2 offered individual sports such as table tennis, badminton and shuffleboard.* photo by Anna Lam

5. *Senior Travis Krugler dumps the contents of an individual recycling bin into a larger one. Students helped with recycling once a week.* photo by Anna Lam

5 Bagging Bugs

Bagging up a butterfly, junior Ammar Devedzic catches bugs for his final project in animal science. Teacher Kyla Burns went on pregnancy leave when the seniors were done with school. The remaining juniors spent the rest of the year with substitute teacher Michael Mertz catching bugs and doing a small project. The students had to catch five bugs before the end of the year and create a classification guide for one of their bugs.

Ammar Devedzic '14

Hannah Tetmeyer '14

1.

Stuffy Shelter

Just as the top three and 15 percent of the senior class lined up to be recognized, the faint but discernible sound of tornado sirens became audible. Principal Brent Riessen took the microphone to make an announcement to the students and parents crowded in the gym. He verified that it was not a drill and that everyone needed to take shelter.

The graduates and their families filed into nearby locker rooms, bathrooms, and windowless hallways. "When Riessen announced that everyone needed to take shelter I just thought, '**Oh great, how is everyone going to fit in the locker rooms and how long is this going to take?**" Senior Rachel DeCarlo said.

Senior recognition night is a yearly tradition the night before graduation. It is an opportunity for seniors to showcase the results that have come from the efforts they have made over their three years. This year, it was also a showcase of patience. "I knew that taking shelter would take a long time and I didn't want to be at that stupid ceremony any longer than I had to," senior Alex Kaptain said.

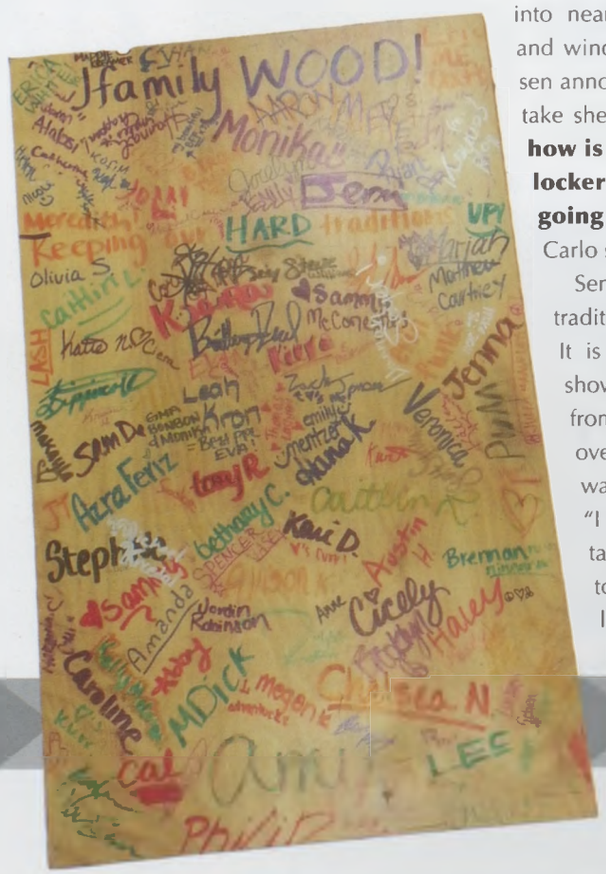
At first, the prospect of the tornado threat did not seem that daunting. "I didn't believe that a twister was going to come anywhere near me, and if it did, I would just run to my truck and take shelter there," Kaptain said. "**Plus, it's going to take more than a twister to kill Alex Kaptain.**"

Everyone kept calm as situation didn't seem to hold any imminent danger. "I wasn't too nervous about the tornado threat because I knew I had my friends and family by my side. I was mostly annoyed because it meant I was going to have to stay in my cap and gown longer than I thought," DeCarlo said.

In fact, no tornado touched ground near to the school. The problem became the conditions in the bathrooms and locker rooms.

They were so jam-packed with people that the temperature noticeably rose after 10 minutes of waiting. "**The girls' varsity locker rooms didn't smell the best and it was extremely hot in there,**" DeCarlo said. "**I actually thought that some people in there, along with myself, may actually pass out because of how hot it was.**"

After waiting for what seemed like forever, the seniors and their audience were finally released back into the gym to carry on with the recognition ceremony.



Dreamin' of this since a child

Senior night ended with a representation of clubs and organizations. Lights were dimmed, candles lit, and "On Top of the World" by Imagine Dragons, was played. Each club brought a memorable item. ◢*Spread by Kelsey Acheson*

◢**Dominant**. *The senior choir preforms "Distance You Have Come" by Scott Alan. As their last performance as a choir, it meant a lot to the members to be able to sing in front of such a large audience. photo by Clara Carlson*

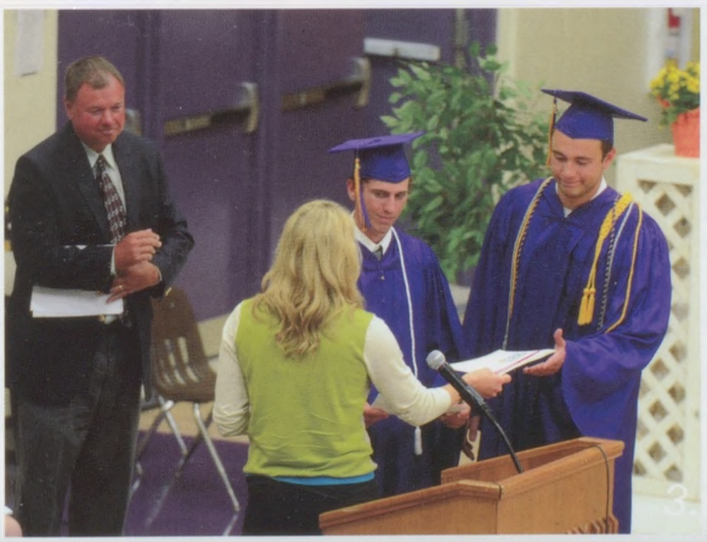
◢**1.** *Senior Lindsey Clothier smiles as she begins the walk across the stage to get her diploma. "Graduation was bittersweet. It feels great to be done but it's scary thinking about what's next," she said. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**2.** *Laughing and clapping, seniors Zeyad Alghool, Madison Boes, Dinela Alic, and Josh Boeschen listen to senior AJ Keech's speech. Keech put it this way, "The memories you make in high school are like a fine cheddar, they only get better with time." photo by Laura Schwartz*

◢**3.** *Seniors Michael Kinning and Dylan Jones accept the High School Game of the Year award. As captains, they were responsible for claiming it for their performance in the playoff game against Urbandale. photo by Laura Schwartz*

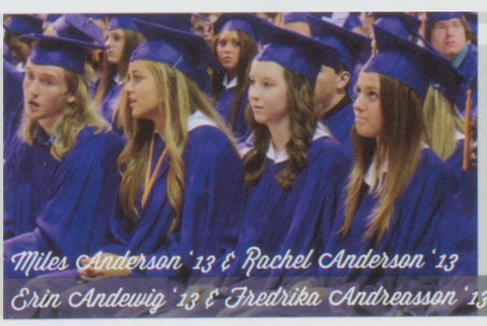
◢**4.** *After receiving her diploma, senior Liz Giesselman shakes hands with principal Brent Riessen. Each graduate then walked across the stage. photo by Clara Carlson*

◢**5.** *Senior Ali Perman is presented with a white cord by associate principal Randy Klein at senior night. The white cords represented the acedemic achievement of being in the top three percent of the class. photo by Laura Schwartz*

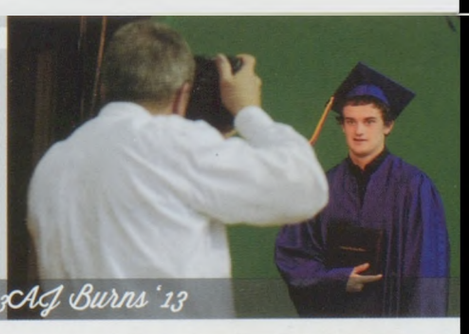


◢Waiting Game

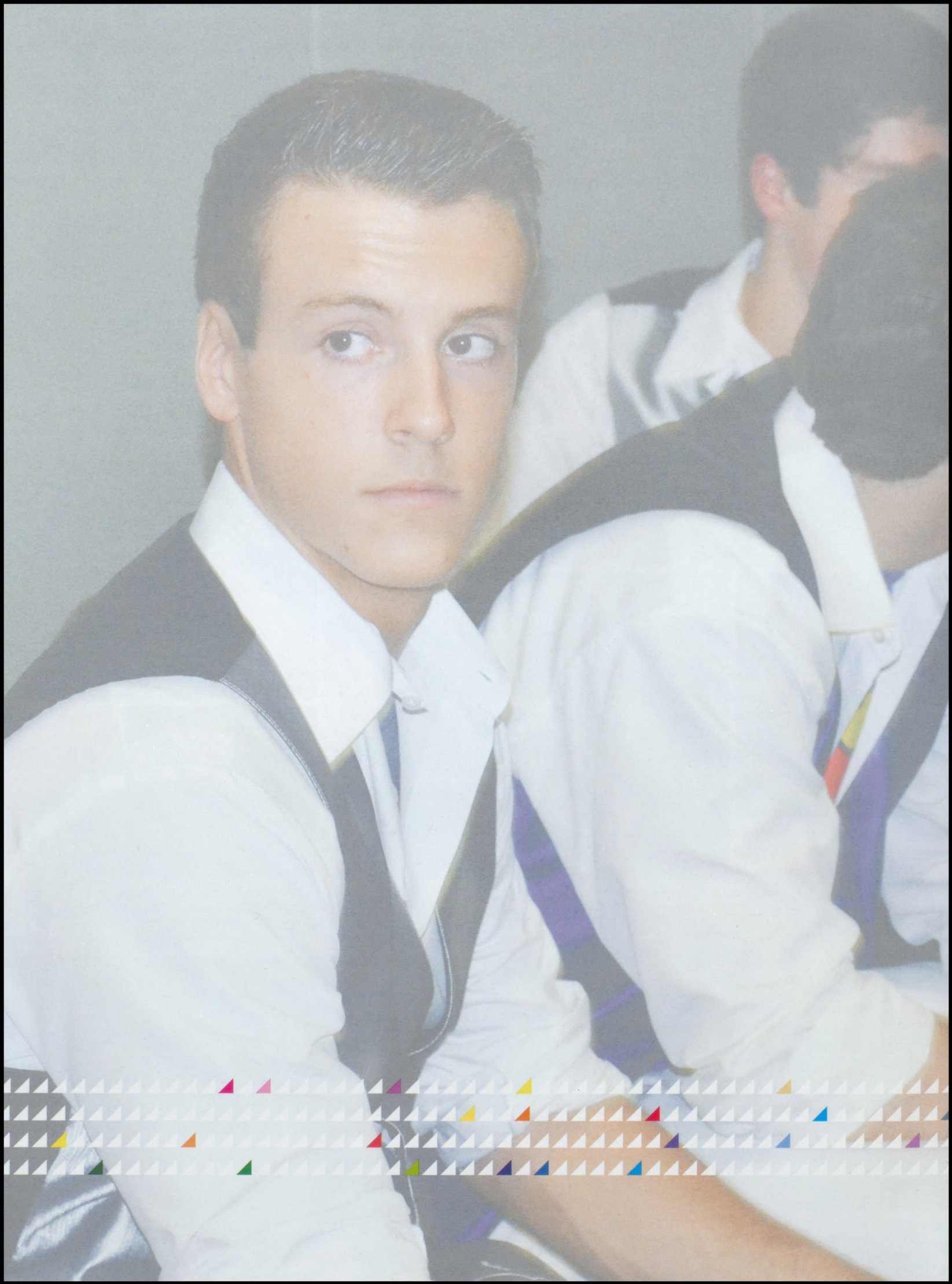
The seniors have done a lot of waiting. After making it through 13 years of school, they had to stay seated while the names of 362 classmates were read. The students lined up row by row to finally receive their diplomas. Everyone who crossed the stage shook hands with school board president Mike Farrell, superintendent Clay Guthmiller, and principal Brent Riessen. They had a keepsake picture taken that they would receive later.



Miles Anderson '13 & Rachel Anderson '13
Erin Andewig '13 & Fredrika Andreasson '13



AJ Burns '13



Mugs

Within this section Mugshots and Spotlights are located. Each student and staff are represented by their photo in sections separated by grade level. Also, each page includes students chosen at random picked to share one thing they want to accomplish before they die. The triangle by their name corresponds to the bucket list item below.

This then proceeds onto the Spotlight pages, in which students and staff were chosen at random to be featured. The question posed to them was "What is one thing you have checked off your bucket list?" and the response and events are as follows within each story.

I did this.

Logan Ryan '15

Staring at a squirmy worm on the ground, sophomore Logan Ryan, a third grader at the time, bent down to pick it up. Without a second thought Ryan popped the worm into his mouth.

Sophomore Carly Kinning, was one of the friends who dared Ryan to eat a worm. "He dared me to eat a cricket so I dared him (to eat a worm)," she said.

The big bug feast happened when they were outside during recess. "I saw the cricket," Kinning said. "I was like, 'oh do you dare me to eat this?' And he was like, 'eat it.'"

Kinning, not one to back down from a dare, including the ones she imposes upon herself, approached the cricket. "It was on the side of the building, so I just kicked it and killed it," she said. "Then I ate it." After finishing off the cricket, Kinning then turned to Ryan and dared him to eat a worm. This time though, $20 was at stake.

"It was a risk I was willing to take," Ryan said."It was worth the money."

However, it was awful. **"(The worm) was really mushy and you could just taste the crap coming out of it,"** Ryan said. "It was disgusting! It was really bad! I spit some of it out."

Kinning thought Ryan did not follow through."I would have given him 20 bucks if he swallowed it, but he didn't, so I only gave him 10," she said.

After eating the worm, Ryan bragged to his fellow classmates. "I was like, 'yeah, I just ate a worm,'" he said.

Seven years later Ryan still has no regrets. "If you paid me right now, I'd do it again, no doubt." And as for why he even did it in the first place, all Ryan has to say was, **"I just did it cause YOLO."**

Mary Moermond

As French teacher Mary Moermond walks into the crowded Oreal Beauty School in Paris, France, a hair stylist addresses her. "You have such beautiful hair!" the stylist said. "Can we give you a special haircut? It will be free?"

Moermond agreed to the haircut. "Free is free," she said. As soon as Moermond responded, the stylist led her through the crowd in the salon to an empty room. As she sat in a dark brown reclining chair, the stylist washed her hair. Then, the hairstylist grabbed her arm and took her onto a stage. Her special haircut was being done in front of an audience. **"I was horrified!"** Moermond said. **"I never expected to be getting my hair done in front of an audience when she said 'special haircut'!"**

Seated in a tall pink chair, they asked her to introduce herself. "I'm a foreign exchange student from the States, here studying at Sorbonne for French," Moermond said.

The two hairstylists got started on her hair. One hairstylist spun the chair so that audience could see the back of her hair and started cutting, while the other stylist explained the process to the audience. **"I eventually felt comfortable; the experience made me feel so special,"** Moermond said.

Moermond liked her free, special haircut. As she waved goodbye to the hairstylists, she was excited to get back to her dorm and tell all her friends about her awesome experience.

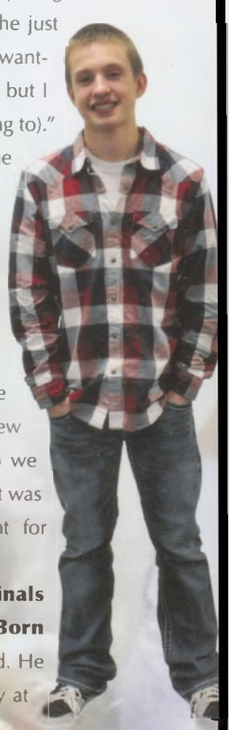
Conner Bast '15

Cardinals vs. Cubs. In the new Cardinals' stadium, under the lights. Cubs down. A franschise-tying 12 runs in one inning. Cardinal's fan, Conner Bast and Cubs fan, Logan Ryan witnessed a spectacular game. **"It was so cool to witness history and, of course, it was against my best friend's favorite team which made it all the better."**

Sophomores Bast and Ryan attended the game for Bast's birthday. "It was something I have done before, but it was so cool to do it with one of my friends, and in the new stadium," Bast said.

Cubs fans were scarce. "During that game there was all of five Cubs fans there," Ryan said. "We were just sitting there while everyone else was cheering."

Along with feeling awkward, Ryan was frustrated. "It was too funny, Logan was so angry about the game that he just 'gave up,'" Bast said. "He wanted the Cubs to win so bad, but I knew that they weren't (going to)."



"The only good part of the game was that there was really good pizza," Ryan said. "We trashed talked a little, but it was worthless."

The next day, the two were going to go to the St. Louis Gateway Arch. "The line was so long and we knew there was another game so we went. Why not?" Bast said. It was yet another disappointment for Cubs fans.

"I have been a Cardinals fan for my whole life. Born and raised one," Bast said. He would love to see them play at the World Series.

Pet a tiger, Ride the Orient Express, Go to Eagles game in Philadelphia,

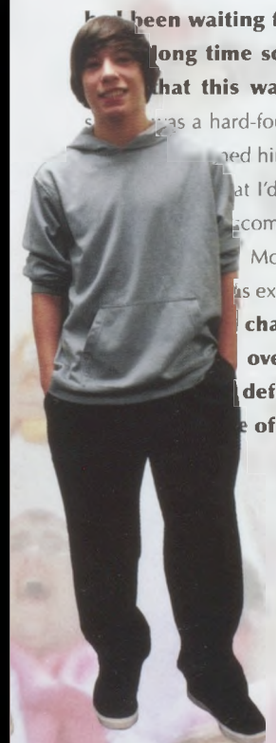
Stories by Gabby Ledesma, Swathi Somisetty, Laura Schwartz, Katrina Fey, Hannah Wiles, Gabby Ledesma.

Austin McFall '14

Junior Austin McFall makes his way to the wrestling mat. All he has to do is beat the varsity wrestler who held the position he wanted in a wrestle off. He struggles to get into the mind set. **"You have to get angry at the other kid and pretend he isn't a guy on your team,"** McFall said. **"He's the guy who has your spot and all you want is to snatch it from him."** He shook hands with his teammate turned opponent, and the match was on.

McFall had been wrestling since it was first offered at school in seventh grade and grew to love it. His dream was to wrestle on varsity. He knew that it would be hard because only one person wrestles in each weight class. "The competition to be the one is very stiff and to beat all the others is really hard," McFall said.

The wrestle-off took place at practice. **"I [h]ad been waiting for this moment for a [l]ong time so when I got asked, I [t]hat this was my chance,"** McFall [s]as a hard-fought battle. After a strug-[g]ed him to the floor.



[a]t I'd been hoping for and to [a]ccomplished it made me so [M]cFall said. His father was [a]s extremely proud of his son. **[c]hance to relive this mo-[o]ver again, and not just [d]efinitely would,"** McFall **[o]f my favorite moments**

Karrigan Kueny '14

Junior Karrigan Kueny's freshman yearbook contains numerous references to pop star Justin Bieber. "Back in ninth grade, that's mainly what I was known for: my obsession with Justin," she said. "In my freshman year yearbook, every person's note has something to do with him."

A friend introduced Karrigan to Bieber's music, saying he was her 'boyfriend,' and showing her a music video. Just like that, she was hooked.

Classmates heckled her about her love. "People would come up to me and ask, 'Why do you like Justin Bieber? He's stupid,' but I don't care. Everyone likes their own music."

While some may rag on the teen star, Karrigan maintains her devotion. Ever since "Baby," his Billboard-charting Top 5 song, she wanted to meet him. "In 2010 I went to his concert in Des Moines. **Justin came on, and when there were two songs left, we went back to his tour bus to meet him**." Unfortunately, he had rushed back into his tour bus, and only gave the fans a wave. "I did ,meet Sean Kingston," she said, so it was not all in vain.

Oct. 26 she missed meeting him in Kansas City. She stood outside his bus for six hours, only to find out later he was at his hotel.

However, the pursuit continued. She and her sister Peyton purchased $650 back stage passes/front row tickets to meet Bieber at Wells Fargo Arena in July.

Becca Suvalsky '14

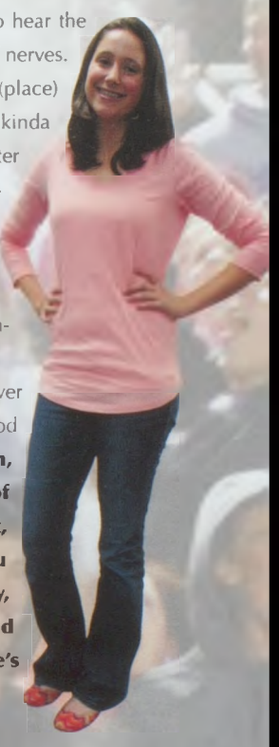
Feeling the warm, worn fabric against her arm, junior Becca Suvalsky's slips into her cheer nationals jacket for the thousandth time. She cannot help but smile as she recalls one of her favorite memories. **"(The jacket) is always something I've wanted,"** Suvalsky said. She won it at the national cheerleading competition.

As a competitive cheerleader, Suvalsky had always hoped to win the signature jacket that the winners receive at competitions. "As the competitions get more tough the jackets get better," Suvalsky said.

Of course, winning a jacket was not easy. "We had been so close (to winning) on a number of competitions," Suvalsky said.

At their final competition, Sulvasky's team wanted to give it one last shot. "This was our last competition to really get it and we just kind of all clicked together," Suvalsky said.

As Sulvasky's team waited to hear the results, there was no absence of nerves. "When they were saying fourth (place) and fifth (place), we were just kinda sitting there," Suvalsky said. After a long pause, and stressful seconds of sitting in agony, her team was named the first place winner. Sulvasky, along with her teammates, had won their nationals jackets.



"Being able to put it on over your uniform is just such a good feeling," Suvalsky said. **"I mean, I'm sure it sounds kind of silly, just like a little jacket, you know? But it's like you get the jacket and the trophy, and you walk around and you're kinda like 'Hey, here's my jacket.'"**

Eat spaghetti in Italy, Meet Justin Bieber, Jump off a waterfall,

√did this.

Erik Rasmussen '13

Sept. 18, a Tuesday morning, Erik Rassmusen's life changed. In first period as he leaned back in his chair in teacher Kayla Bousum's money management class, he felt something weird inside his chest. He could not breathe. He went to the nurse and she told him he possibly dislocated rib. "I had to go through the day like normal," Rasmussen said. "In P.E. I was in pain though."

That afternoon, his physical therapist told him to see a doctor, so he went to Iowa Radiology and got an X-ray. **"They told me no matter what the results said I had to come back,"** Rasmussen said. "I knew something was wrong."

The results showed his lung had deflated to the size of about a peanut because of small mass called a "bleb."

The doctor gave him two options: he could receive oxygen in a method that would re-inflate his lung or he could have chest tubes put in. He chose the more effective choice, the chest tube.

Even though unplanned, Rasmussen dealt with the situation. "This experience wasn't something I wanted to go through but it taught me a lot," Rasmussen said. **"It made me reallze how much everyone takes breathing for granted. We all just walk around and breathe in air. But then when you can't breathe it's scary when you know at any moment you could pass out or have a heart attack. I will never take air for granted again."**

Timmy Morrissey '13

"Hey JHS :) This is your good friend Tim, I found a picture of a Red Panda on the internet and thought you should all see it :) You're Welcome."

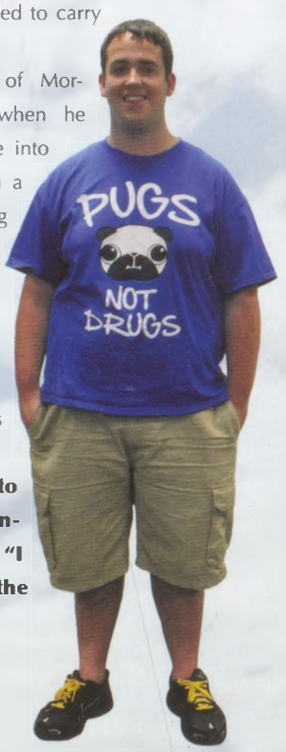
Senior Timmy Morrissey sent this e-mail to the Jdragonmail account of every student in the school along with a "cute" picture of a red panda. Typical Timmy Morrissey. "He has just a hilarious/lovable personality," junior Tyler Smaha, a friend, said.

Morrissey loves to see people laugh. "I'm never really down and don't like people to be sad around me so I try to cheer them up," he said. He says he chooses to live like this because his parents have raised him and his brothers that way.

Morrissey tries to do things like wearing sweater vests to every volleyball game; he wore a sweater vest to a game and got good responses, so he decided to carry on his trend.

Another example of Morrissey's humor was when he photoshopped his face into a picture of a man in a knitted sweater,holding a cat, and then posted that photo as his profile picture on Facebook. He also wears funny shirts that say things like "I'm fat, let's party."

"Life's too short to be serious in my opinion," Morrissey said. **"I just always look on the bright side."**



Addie Cooper '13

Senior year, a lot of students still wonder what they want to do after they graduate, but senior Addie Cooper already had a plan. "I want to be in business," she said. "I want to do marketing and travel and meet a ton of people."

Cooper was first introduced to the world of business by teachers Tim Brickley and Kayla Bousum. "She (Bousum) was huge on women in business, so she wanted to make sure I kept going."

After attending a business convention in Iowa State, Cooper was hooked. She made it a point to take each business class offered by the high school.

"It's the idea that you make it (a business) your own way to make it appeal to other people," Cooper said, **"not really manipulating, but putting your own vision into something other people are going to see."**

She enrolled in two DMACC courses, first and second semester, including an accounting class and an intro to business class. "I could never be in accounting, it's way too much work," she said. "I used to want to do sports marketing, but that's mainly based in places like Oregon and New York and big cities. Those places are far from Iowa. **I love being in a small town with my family close by, but at the same time, I want to explore and travel."**

Finding a balance between family and freedom had Cooper exploring her options within business. "It just depends when I go to college and study marketing to see what really interests me. I haven't gone that far yet."

Be happy, Own a small pet monkey, Go To Lollapolooza,

Stories by Kate Allender, Kylie Le Page, Hannah Wiles & Claire Sevenich, Amanda Jensen, Gabby Ledesma, Laura Schwartz.

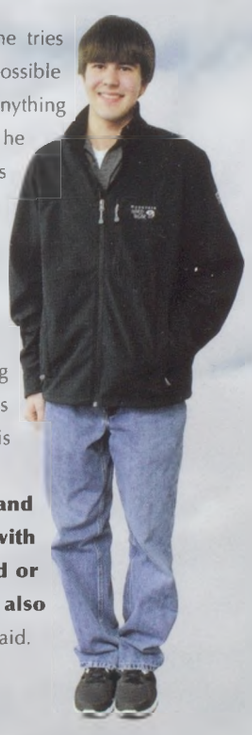
Alexander Ritchie '14

The close bond between junior Alexander Ritchie and his father is partly due to skeet shooting. "I like that it's something I can do with my friends and my dad," Ritchie said. His dad first took him out when he was 10.

Ritchie shoots shotgun rifles for a team based near Waukee. They compete against other schools such as Pella, Ankeny and Oskaloosa. Most competitions occur every weekend during the springtime. "I also wanted to do golf, but had to choose between the two," Ritchie said, "I'd rather do shooting because of the person I am, and I've met many friends because of it."

During competitions, orange clay disks fly at 40-50 mph into the air. Whoever shoots the most disks earns the highest score. **"I shot at the state shoot and won first and second place when I was about 16 years old,"** Ritchie said.

When Ritchie shoots he tries to feel as detached as possible and does not think about anything other than shooting so he won't miss his target. "It's challenging, and you have to be mentally prepared to hit the target."



Winning the state shoot was an accomplishment, but supporting his team and shooting his best at each competition is Ritchie's main goal.

"I definitely enjoy it and am happy to shoot with people that are as good or better than me who are also in high school," Ritchie said.

Matt Jorgensen '14

A group of stingrays glided in the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea near Cozumel, ready to entertain the tourists fresh off the cruise ship. Fourteen-year-old Matt Jorgensen thought he was ready to swim with them — until he entered the water.

"I think it was just the size of them that kinda freaked me out," the current junior said. "They could brush by your feet."

In addition to being freaked, he was amazed. "You were like literally standing in the middle of their habitat," he said.

Jorgenson knew little about the creatures.

"All I knew was that they were called stingrays and that they could sting you in a certain way," he said. "I didn't understand exactly what part of them could sting you, so I was just afraid to get stung." After a few seconds of standing in the water Jorgenson realized he was not quite ready to face the stingrays.

"I kinda jumped on my mom's back and yelled 'Ah mom, take me to the boat, take me to the boat.'"

Jorgensen's mom, Karen, hauled him to the awaiting boat where he could enjoy the stringrays from a more comfortable distance. His father, Mike, and brother, Luke, a senior, stayed in the water and swam with the rays.

"It was freaky but it was very fun, definitely fun," Jorgensen said.

Next time, Jorgensen says he *will* swim with the stingrays.

Ryan Decker '14

As junior Ryan Decker hung face down-from the harness, his stomach churned and his thoughts raced. "What if I flew out of the harness?"

Why the worry? Because he was about to swing from a wire attached to four 100-foot telephone towers.

Once the assistant operating the swing helped Decker and his father get strapped in securely, he felt reassured. "Getting all strapped into the the swing I was ready and not going to back down."

Five years ago, when Decker was 12, he and his family took a trip to Bonanza, Colorado. The Royal Gorge Bridge and Park was one of their many stops on their 16-hour car ride. **"We stopped to take a break to explore a few land marks and came across a giant swing that went over the Royal Gorge,"** Decker said. "We weren't on any time constraint so we all came to a consensus to go check it out."

Decker's mom and younger brother opted out of this thrill ride, but his dad agreed to accompany him.

"When we started to go, all of a sudden I felt weightless, as if I was flying," Decker said. **"We were like 1,000 feet above the Royal Gorge, nothing could touch me."**

Go Shark Fishing, Go to an Adele Concert, Join the 300 Club,

Mugs & Spotlights (126,127)

SENIORS Class of 2013

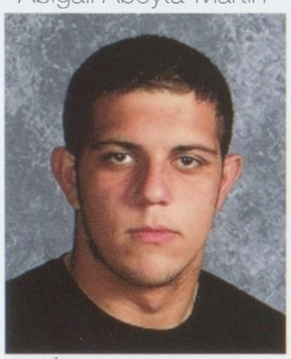
Abigail Abeyta-Martin

Nicole Ackerman

Madeline Adkins

Jasmine Alaniz

Megan Albers


Zeyad Alghool

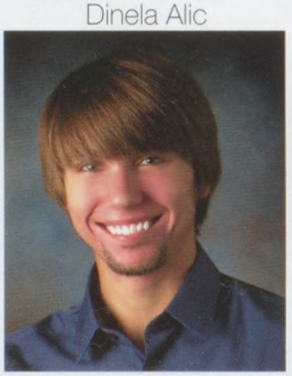
Dinela Alic

Abigail Aller

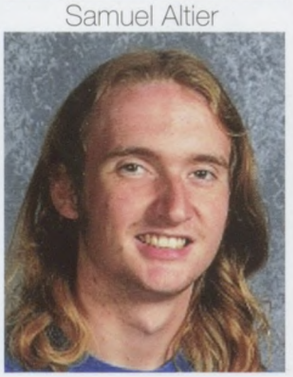
Samuel Altier

Nicholas Altman

Tyler Amundson


Evan Anderson

Krister Anderson


Myles Anderson

Rachel Anderson

Erin Andeweg

Fredrika Andreasson

Michael Armstrong

Jacob Atkinson

Justin Atterberg

Become Grandmaster Black belt, Go snorkeling, Get in a

Laura Ausenhus

Semir Bahtagic

Dylan Balmer

Troy Barnes

Nolan Beck

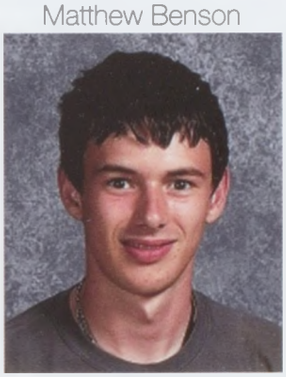
Matthew Benson

Andrew Bevis

Katherine Bischof Gillette

Melia Black

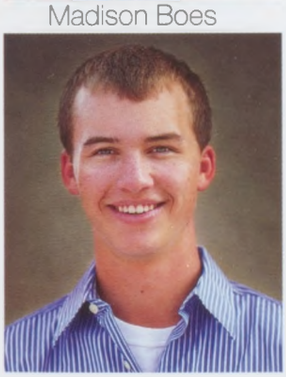
Madison Boes


Joshua Boeschen

Joseph Bormann

Paige Boyer

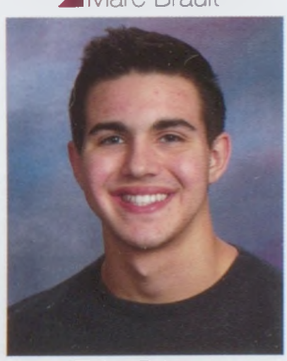
Marc Brault


Travis Brenner

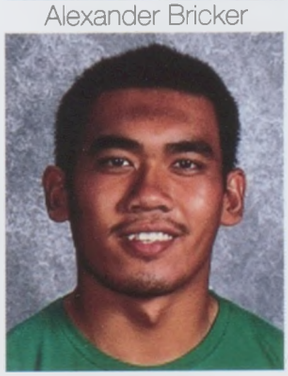
Alexander Bricker

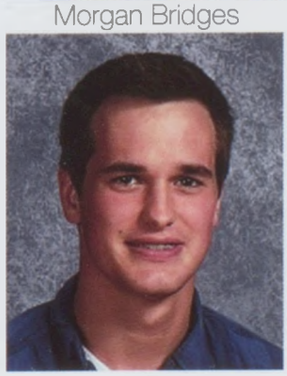
Morgan Bridges

Katherine Brimeyer


Tyler Britton

Melissa Brown


Richard Bui


Joseph Buising

Andrew Burns

Taner Burns

taxi and yell, "Follow that car!", Have kids, See the Redwoods,

Austin Busch

Corbin Buttrey

Monica Caporelli

Jeff Carley

Bailey Chamberlin

Rachel Christ

Byron Christensen

Leigha Christenson

Nathan Christenson

Cole Christians

Nathan Christianson

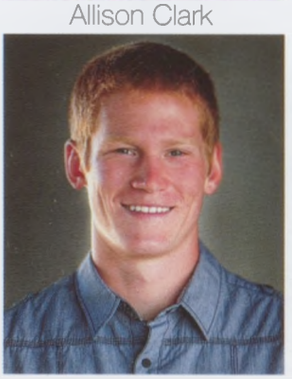
Allison Clark

Courtney Clark

Katelynn Clay

Demarco Clayton

Neiman Clinton


Spencer Clock

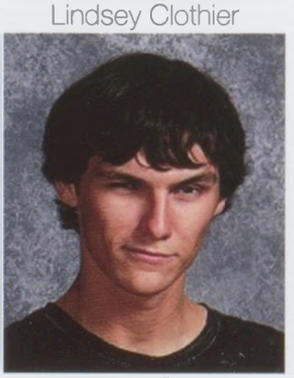
Lindsey Clothier

Sierra Collins

Bailey Comegys

Erin Conlan

Adrienne Cooper


Mitchell Corbin

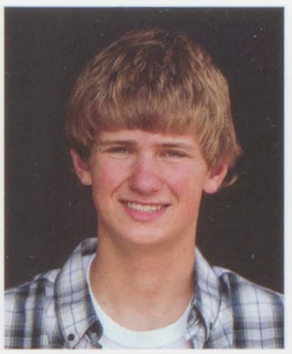
Casey Coughlon

Tyler Cracraft

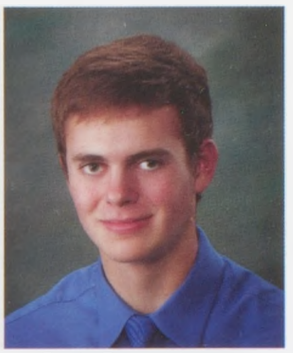
Marry rich, Go skydiving, Do something completely insane,

Paige Cramer

Carly Crist


Joseph Dailey

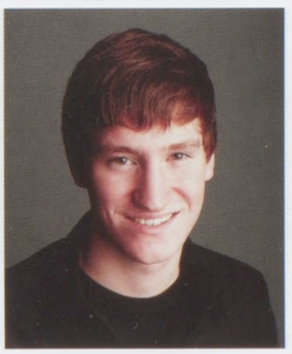
Heath Dannen


Seth Daughhetee

Logan Dean

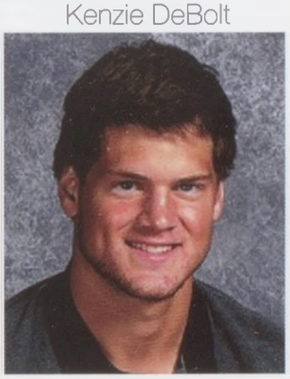
Kenzie DeBolt

Rachel DeCarlo


Ethan DeGroot

Anthony Denny

Alaina Despenas


Marcus Devens

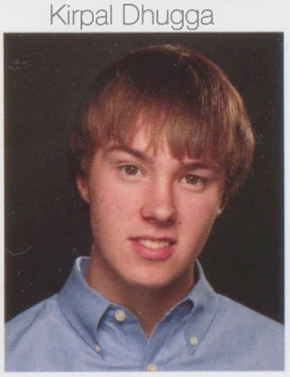
Kirpal Dhugga

Emma Dickinson

Kayla Dings

Paige Dixson

Simmone Doswell

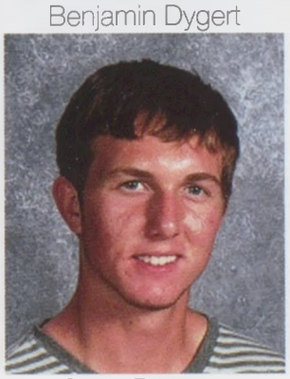

Benjamin Dygert

Christopher Eisen

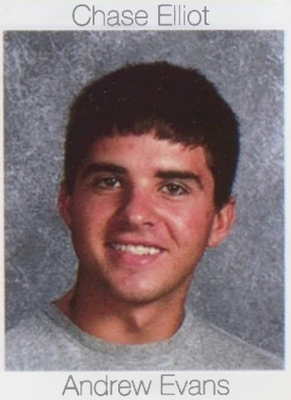
Chase Elliot

Isabella Engblom

Bailey Eppard

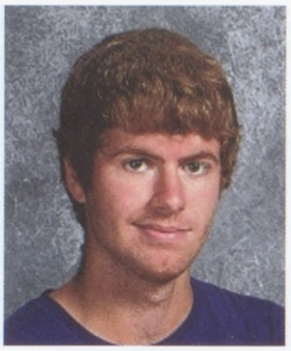

Cody Erickson

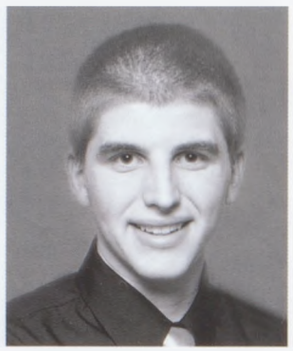
Alejandra Escoto


Andrew Evans

Make an amendment to law, Run the Leadville 100 trail in Colorado

Ryan Evans

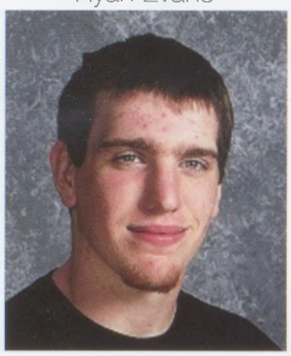

Ryan Evans


Justin Ewing

Megan Faley

Cassidy Farnsworth

Austin Feinberg


John Finn

John Fogelson

Jordan Galle

Constanza Galvez

Kyle Gansemer

Kara Ganzer

Benjamin Garlock

Xavier Gaumer

Drew Gavin

Mark Thomas Gee

Jacob Gehrke

Lorenza Gentile

Caleb Gibson

Elizabeth Giesselmann

Katherine Giles

Sindhu Gollapudi

Charles Goodwin

Rachel Gray

Sydney Gray

Crowd surf, Wingsuit basejump off the Burj Khalifa, Host

Sarah Gunhus

Olivia Guns

Matthew Guyer

Marissa Hagerla

Benton Haggett

Casey Halder

Michelle Hall

Amelia Hammond

Dalton Handel

Zaxston Hans

Jordan Hansen

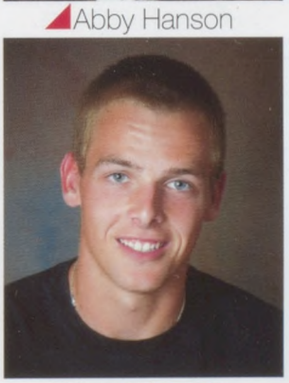
Abby Hanson

Matthew Hanstad

Grace Harcharik

Adelina Hargens

Ryan Harlow


Joseph Hawks

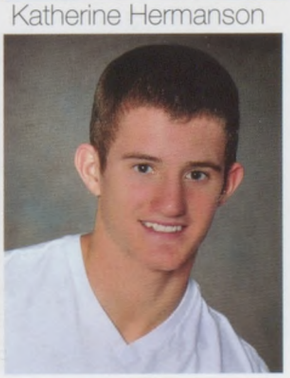
Katherine Hermanson

Jordan Hess

Elizabeth Hobbs

Amber Hodapp

Dorinde Hoddenbagh


Brock Hoffmann

Marissa Holloway

Jiahui Huang

Saturday Night Live, Have a cat farm, Visit Carlo's Bakery,

Ethan Huettman

Kimberly Hughes

William Hyde

Delany Idleman

Jarid Ingebrand

Fatiha Iqbal

Dakota Jackson

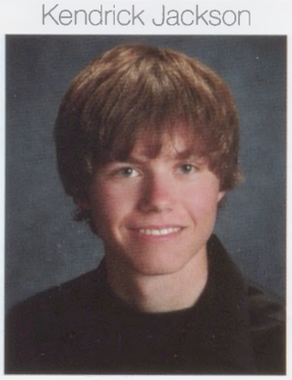
Kendrick Jackson

Conner Jacobsen

Kayla Jansen

Meghan Jansen

Alexander Jenkins


Cole Jewell

Beau Johnson

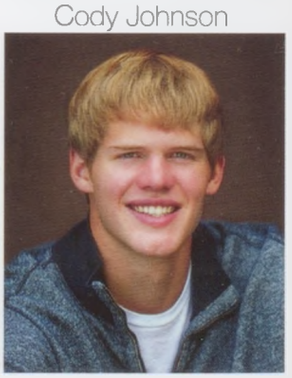
Cody Johnson

Dylan Johnson

Macenzie Johnson

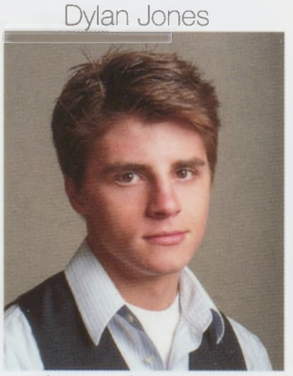
Dylan Jones

Kaelee Jones


Lucas Jorgensen

Alexander Juergens

Jason Kane


Alexander Kaptain

Andrew Keech

Chloe Keeney

Meet Emma Stone and get autograph, Ski in the Swiss Alps,

Craig Kimble

Lauren Kimble

Michael Kinning

Payton Kintz

Mattie Kipp

Marina Klaric

Elijah Kragt

Chase Kramer

Karsen Kramer

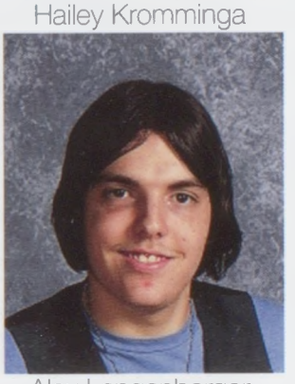
Hailey Kromminga

William Krone

Rebecca Labertew

Brady LaFollette

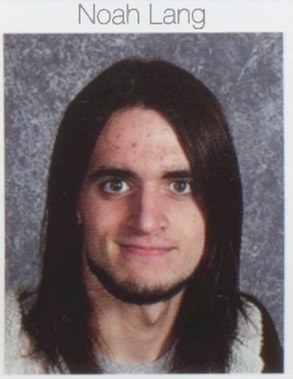
Noah Lang


Alex Langenberger

Kelsi Larsen

Jaryd Lawrence

Rosemary Lawrence


Taylor Lay

Bonnie Le Page

Colin Lee

Reid Lefler

Sarah Lewis

Monica Lindsey

Kayla Linscheid

Go to Fiji, Swim with a great white shark, Go to Russia,

Blake Lipzinski

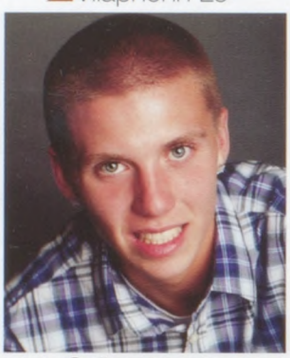
Vilaphonh Lo

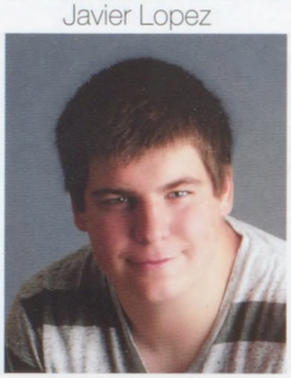
Javier Lopez

Tyler Losen

Brent Luers

Katelyn Lunders


Cullen Maahs

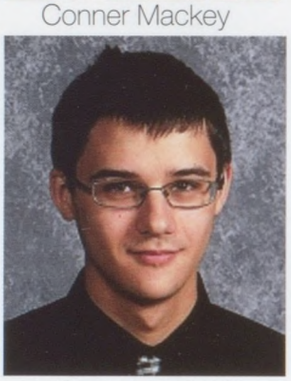

Conner Mackey

Haris Malkic

Jordan Mann

Megan Manteaw

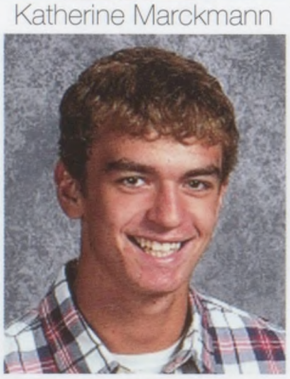
Katherine Marckmann


Ethan Marshall

Nickolas Maurer

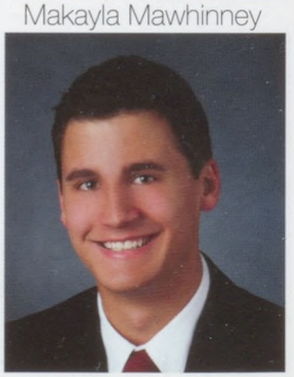
Makayla Mawhinney

Leanna McAllister


Trevor McCauley

Alexander McCune

Austin McGinnis

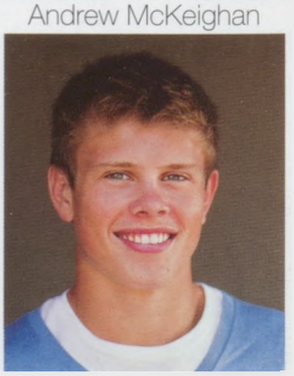

Andrew McKeighan

Francisco Mejia

Victor Mejia

Jacob Mentele

Holly Mestad


Blake Miller

Learn to play guitar, Learn German, See the Seven Wonders

Misty Miller

Joscelyn Miner

Emily Moe

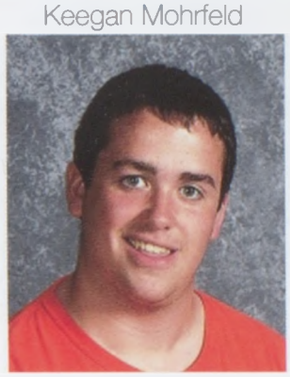
Keegan Mohrfeld

Richard Monroe

Marcus Montgomery

Emma Monthei

Haley Morris


Timothy Morrissey

Spencer Moser

Haris Muranovic

Mackinzie Myers

Andrew Naanep

Solange Nahoza

Clayton Nebel

Jennifer Nelson

Nicholas Nelson

Mimi Nguyen

William Niyifasha

Courtney Norelius

Ashley Norris

Gabriel Nowak

Courtney Nyberg

Connor O'Brien

Harold Obrecht-Wittick

of the World, Be a good aunt, Be on The Price Is Right,

Zachary Odegaard

Richard Onder

Meghan Osterhout

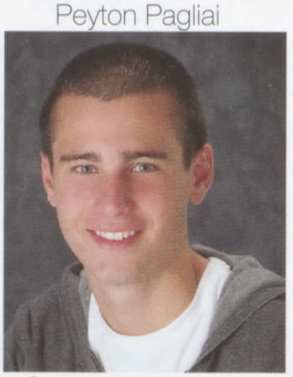
Peyton Pagliai

Adnan Palic

Karly Palmer

Ammar Pasalic

Radha Patel


Samuel Perington

Alison Perman

Thomas Peter

Bailey Peterson

Donna Petry

Stephanie Phillips

Lyndsey Pierick

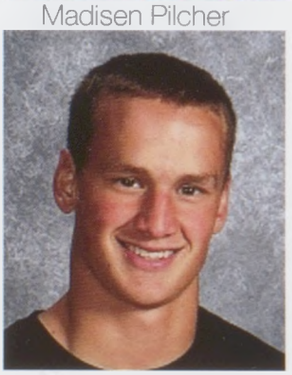
Madisen Pilcher

London Piper

Zachary Pollack

Kylie Poulson

Dylan Preston


Kristopher Queck

Zachary Ramsey

Jacob Randall

Erik Rasmussen

Sanna Rasmussen

See movie at an underground theater. Meet Paul McCartney.

Julia Ratekin

Chelsea Reese

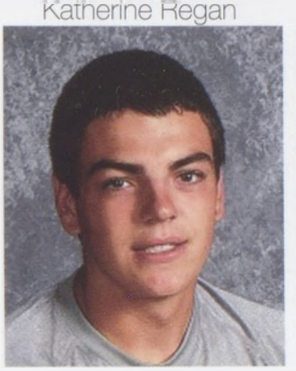
Katherine Regan

Sebastian Golias Reiser

Andrea Renner

Madison Rice

Kathryn Richardson


Adam Richman

Kelly Ridenour

Joshua Ried

Sydney Rissler

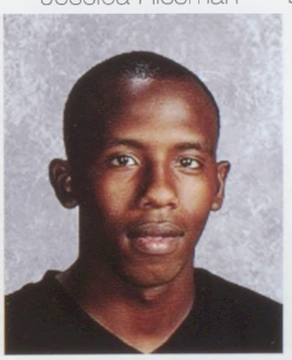
Jessica Rissman

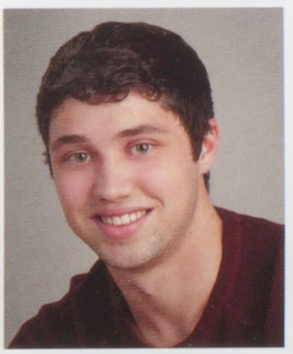
Elizabeth Roach-Lindeman

Brenna Robinson

Zackary Robinson

Makayla Ruchti


Richard Rugabisha


Brandon Ruggieri

Mason Rumpf

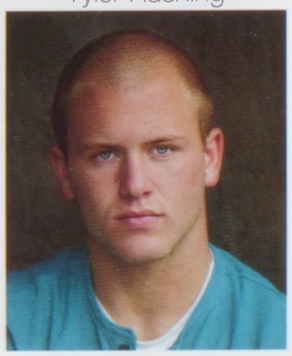
Tyler Rushing

Regan Sanford

Gabriela Santiago

Nathaniel Santos

Makinzie Sauer


Samuel Schade

Find something to put my heart into, Swim with dolphins,

Alissa Schultz

Andrew Schultz

Julie Schultz

Andrew Schwaderer

Michael Schwaderer

Ellen Scott

Emily Scott

Katharine Selberg

Erin Selinger

Claire Sevenich

Ashley Shay

Mattison Sheerin

Ryan Siedenburg

Taylor Slack

Tyler Smaha

Laura Smalley

Dustin Smith

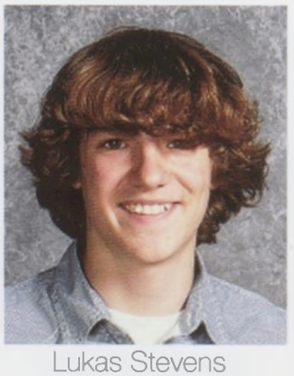
Grant Smith

Haley Souhrada

Hannah Soyer

Margaret Standish

Lauren Stephens


Lukas Stevens

Kaitlin Stitz

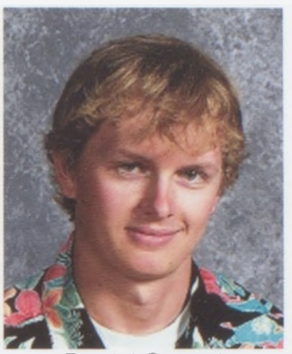
Emily Stoen

Swim across a lake or ocean, Publish a book, Change a

Stephanie Stone

Samantha Strand

Theodore Strand


Daniel Stroud

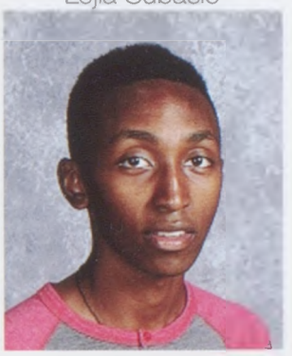
Lejla Subasic

Kayla Sullivan

Brandt Swallow

Jack Swift

Brice Tegeler


Dula Temesgen

Jordan Thede

Stephanie Thierer

Sara Thimmesch

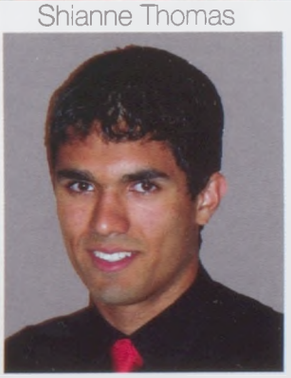
Shianne Thomas

Spencer Thomas

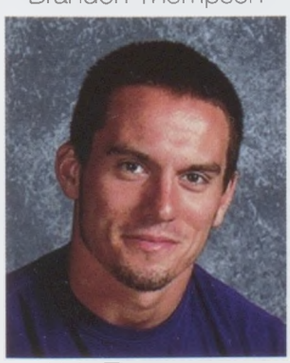
Brandon Thompson

Brandon Thrane

Cynthia Tice

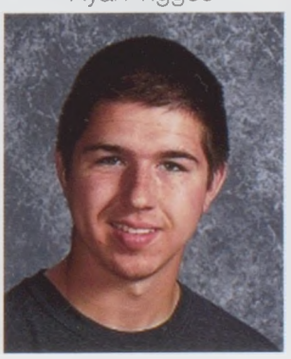

Ryan Tigges

Christopher Timmerman


Kyle Timmerman

Jessica Tindall

Mollie Tompkins


Logan Towers

Dakota Townes

person's life, Save a life, Go to St. Patrick's Day in Ireland,

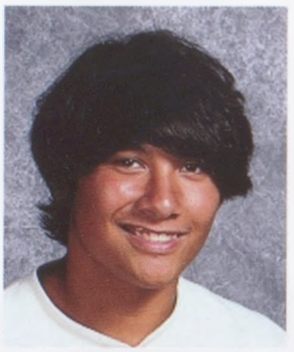
Victoria Trost

Anna Twickler

Lauren Ulm

Collin Urquhart

Allyson Veatch


Nicholi Vergara

Spencer Vines

Bree Waddell

Logan Walkup

Emily Walton

Richard Wang

Connor Ward

Derek Ward

Tanner Ware

Dakota Weeter

Raven Wells

Hannah White

Olivia Whitlow

Tyson Wieland

Cooper Wilde

Hannah Wiles

Shane Wiley

Stephanie Wilkinson

Breanna Williams

Alexa Willie

See a drive-in movie, Go watch the Olympics, Go to Venice,

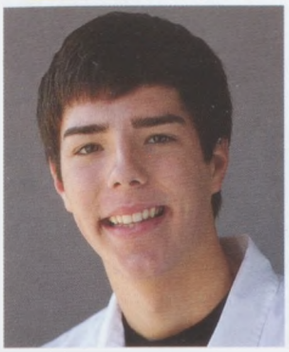
Bernadette Willis

Bailey Wilmes

Blake Wilson

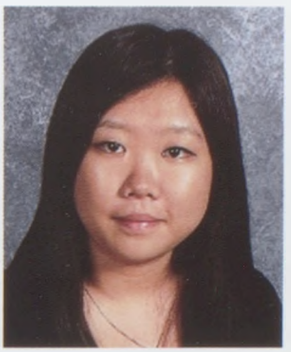
Lauren Wilson

Brennen Woods


Hayden Woods

Lipin Wu

Vivian Wu


Le Xue

Erin Yocum

Zea Zhu

Senior Handprint Wall

See the Cubs in a World Series, Go to Time Square for NYE,

Mugs ◢ Seniors (142,143)

√did this.

Bradley Jacobson '95

Riding the boat down the river, physics teacher Bradley Jacobson took in the rich history that Paris had to offer. "Europe just has so much more history to it than the U.S.," Jacobson said.

In the summer of 1995, Jacobson went on a senior trip with his school where he traveled through nine different countries in Europe: England, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Linkinstand and the Netherlands. **"The trip lasted for only seven days so we were constantly moving,"** Jacobson said.

Jacobson's plane landed in the Netherlands and, along with students from different high schools, he went on a bus tour. It started in Austria, and went across Europe, ending in England.

During the trip, Jacobson toured many museums and was amazed by their century-old aritifacts. **"The museums here are very different from the museums there,"** Jacobson said. **"They have 1300's and 1400's stuff, and they encompass so much more history than the US."**

The architecture in Europe was memorable to Jacobson. **"I liked the old castles that we visited, and the cathedral at Cantebury in England was really interesting,"** Jacobson said. **"The palace at Versailles was also very memorable."**

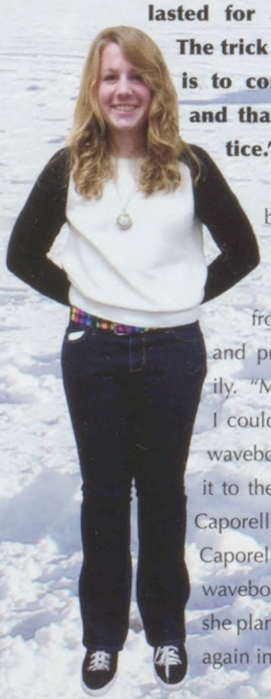
Jacobson has not been back to visit. However, he hopes to go back someday. "History is always intriguing," he said. "I would like to see how things have changed."

Sarah Caporelli 15

Slowly standing up on the wobbling wave board, sophomore Sarah Caporelli nervously awaits for the big splash. Losing her balance, she braces herself for the painful smack. **"When you fall over it's basically like your whole body's doing a belly flop,"** Caporelli said. "That happened three times with me."

Bungee jumping, touring Europe, and going on a hot air balloon are all things waiting to be crossed off Caporelli's bucket list, but she crossed waveboarding off the summer of 2012 at Smith Lake in Alabama. "When I was doing it, there were no directors," Caporelli said. "So I basically had to teach myself how to waveboard."

It took trial and error before Caporelli succeeded in standing upright on the waveboard. **"It took me around 15 tries before I was finally able to get it,"** Caporelli said. **"But even when I was able to stand up it only lasted for about 10 seconds. The trick to standing upright is to control your balance and that comes with practice."**



Learning how to waveboard in less than a day, Caporelli had to endure a lot of pain from belly flopping and pressure from her family. "My family didn't think I could teach myself how to waveboard so I had to prove it to them that I could do it," Caporelli said.

Caporelli hopes to continue waveboarding in the future as she plans on doing it again and again in upcoming summers.

Amy Keech '15

When the Keech family went on what they thought would be a short hike through the Rocky Mountains, what they got was a five-hour life changing experience.

"We were planning to do a one-hour loop hiking trail," sophomore Amy Keech said, **"but somewhere we got on the wrong trail and just kept going up and couldn't get out of the woods."**

The Keech family set out for their hike dressed in lightweight clothing, since the temperature was over 80 degrees. As it grew later, some problems started to arrise. By nighttime, it had dropped to 40 degrees. "We didn't pack any dinner," Keech said, "except I had brought a new pack of breathe mints, so that ended up being all we had to eat for dinner."

After five hours of hiking, the Keech's finally reached the top of the mountain. "When we got to the top we were freaking out," Keech said. **"All we could see was woods. Our whole family was panicking."**

Lost in the middle of nowhere, the Keech's became nervous that they would spend their night stuck in the Rocky Mountains. Just then, their problem was solved. "On the top of the mountain, we found a horse trail, so we followed that down and got back on the trail and found our way back to our car," Keech said.

This day changed Keech's life. "The situation we got in taught me to be more aware and also to be prepared more for unexpected things."

The Keech family kept the breath mint case to remind them of their adventure of being lost in the mountains.

Visit a national park, Live on a houseboat, Swim in the Great Barrier

Stories by Jiahui Huang, Jiahui Huang, Kate Allender, Claire Sevenich, Kate Allender, Anna Lam

Kayla Jansen '13

Bundled up and prepared to march, senior Kayla Jansen heads across the field during yet another early morning practice. The fog has not cleared the stadium. The only evidence of others lies in the shoe prints on the frost-covered turf.

Jansen was first introduced to music at Wallace Elementary School. "(Sandy) Miller, she was the one who somehow used her magic to help me pursue music," Jansen said. Making music fascinated her.

"Choir, hand bells, piano, band... I played clarinet for half a year," Jansen said.

Entering high school, Jansen immediately joined marching band. It came to be a challenge. Not only did she need to memorize a music show, but an array of drill spots needed to be perfected as well.

The music drew Jansen to the marching band, but the people made her stay. **"It's different for every person,"** Jansen said. **"I think it is a way to get a huge group of people around each other."**

Being in marching band not only heriped her get out of her comfort zone, but also aided her in making a decision on a future career. The people and music will always remain in Jansen's memories.

After Jansen's last performace, the final chord rang out and resonated through the stands. The only visible trace of her performance was in the smile glued to her lips. "It is an experience you will never be able to relive," Jansen said.

Amy Nihart '14

Even though Cedar Point amusement park opened 10 minutes ago, the line to the second tallest roller coaster in the world is already hundreds of feet long. Those in line will wait two hours for the thrilling 20-second ride.

Junior Amy Nihart stood in that line ready to check off another roller coaster from her bucket list. **"Every summer since I can remember, me and my dad search out a special roller coaster to ride,"** Nihart said.

Nihart's quest for rip-roaring roller coasters started at age 6 after she took her first ride on the "Rock'in' Roller Coaster" at Disney. When her father, Dean, realized she shared his love of the rides, the two began searching out the most thrilling rides in the country.

The search led to second tallest coaster in Sanusky, Ohio, the Top Thrill Dragster. It stands 420 ft. tall.

"It was amazing, Nihart said. **"At the top there was a beautiful view of the lake, and then we plunged straight down."**

Although they stood in line for quite a while to ride the coaster, the trip itself only lasted about 20 seconds. They went straight up, did a loop and then went straight down.

Nihart thought the wait for the intimidating plunge was worth it. However, she liked the Millennium Force, another ride at the park, better. "It was longer, so I had more time to enjoy it," she said. It has been voted the best steel coaster in the world seven times.

Now, Nihart and her father's sights are set on riding the tallest roller coaster in the world, the Kingda Ka at 6 Flags in New Jersey, towering 456 ft. at 128 mph.

Olivia Jenkins '14

While living in Luxembourg, junior Olivia Jenkins' sixth grade art teacher, Ms. Beard, inspired her to think about turning her intense interest in art into a career.

The summer after Jenkins' sophomore year, she began to research different art and design camps that she could attend. She decided on one at Iowa State. **"I wanted to spend a summer immersing myself in the art field,"** Jenkins said. The camp lasted for one week, and during Jenkins' time there she attended art classes, visited an architecture and graphic design firm, took photos and made artwork that was displayed in a gallery on the last day of camp.

One thing Jenkins created during design camp was a musicscape. The students had to listen to different music and draw what they thought it depicted. Jenkins also created a collage showing her experiences at camp. She used the photos that she took during the camp, as well as drawings and clips from magazines.

"[Design] is kind of like a science experiment," Jenkins said. **"You have a list of objectives and contraints and have to keep adjusting your design until you finally perfect it."**

Jenkins was further assured after attending camp that she wants to pursue something in the art field.

Jenkins took Design I in the fall, a class taught by Daniel Weiss, to prep her even further for her dream job. **"I want to create art that inspires people,"** Jenkins said.

Reef, Become a choir teacher, Own a business, Zipline in Costa Rica,

Mugs Spotlights (144,145)

JUNIORS

Class of 2014

Sai Abbaraju
Kelsey Acheson
Deepthi Akella
Amy Allison
Lizzie Alonzo
Callie Alvarez
Ronnoja Ayers

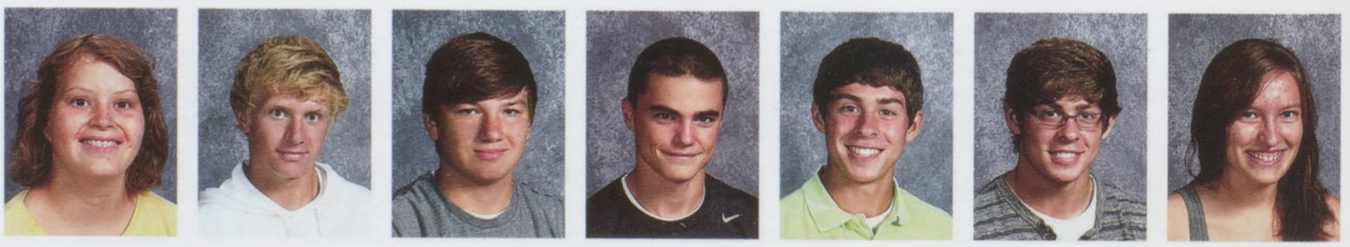
Caleb Bakken
Chandler Bakken
Sierra Ballard
Nicholas Barker
Summer Bateman
Noah Beebe
Shannon Beierschmitt

Libby Bengston
Hannah Berger
Veronica Bertelsen
Maren Bettis
Allie Bierle
Sarah Birkett
Will Bjorholm

Tyler Blackburn
Bailey Bockenstedt
Andrew Boge
Jordan Boge
Adam Bognar
Briana Borup
Brooke Boyer

Megan Bradley
Zach Brandt
Spencer Breckenridge
◢Jayden Bridgeman
Casey Briere
Tanner Bucher
Pratyusha Bujimalla

Victoria Calhown
Jacob Campbell
Nicolas Campbell
Alex Canny
Jeremy Caracci
Jonathan Caracci
Clara Carlson



◢Fly a helicopter, ◢Play at the Dome for the 4A championships,

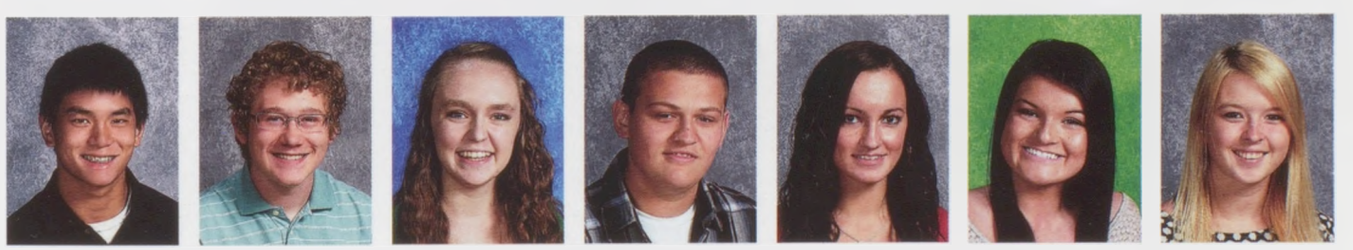
Madison Case
Amanda Chance
Anah Chapman
◢Kyle Chapman
Karen Chen
Cheyenne Church
Alex Clark

Kyler Coburn
Morgan Coffey
Jensen Conant
Rory Coniconde
Laree Conley
Tyler Cook
Kenzie Cooper

Shelby Costello
Callie Coulter
Katherine Crowley
Drew Cubit
◢Troy Daly
Mikel Daniels
Lindsey Darland

Noah Daugherty
Nicole Davis
◢Cassidy Dean
Naomi Debaene
Ryan Decker
Admir Delahmet
Josh Dell

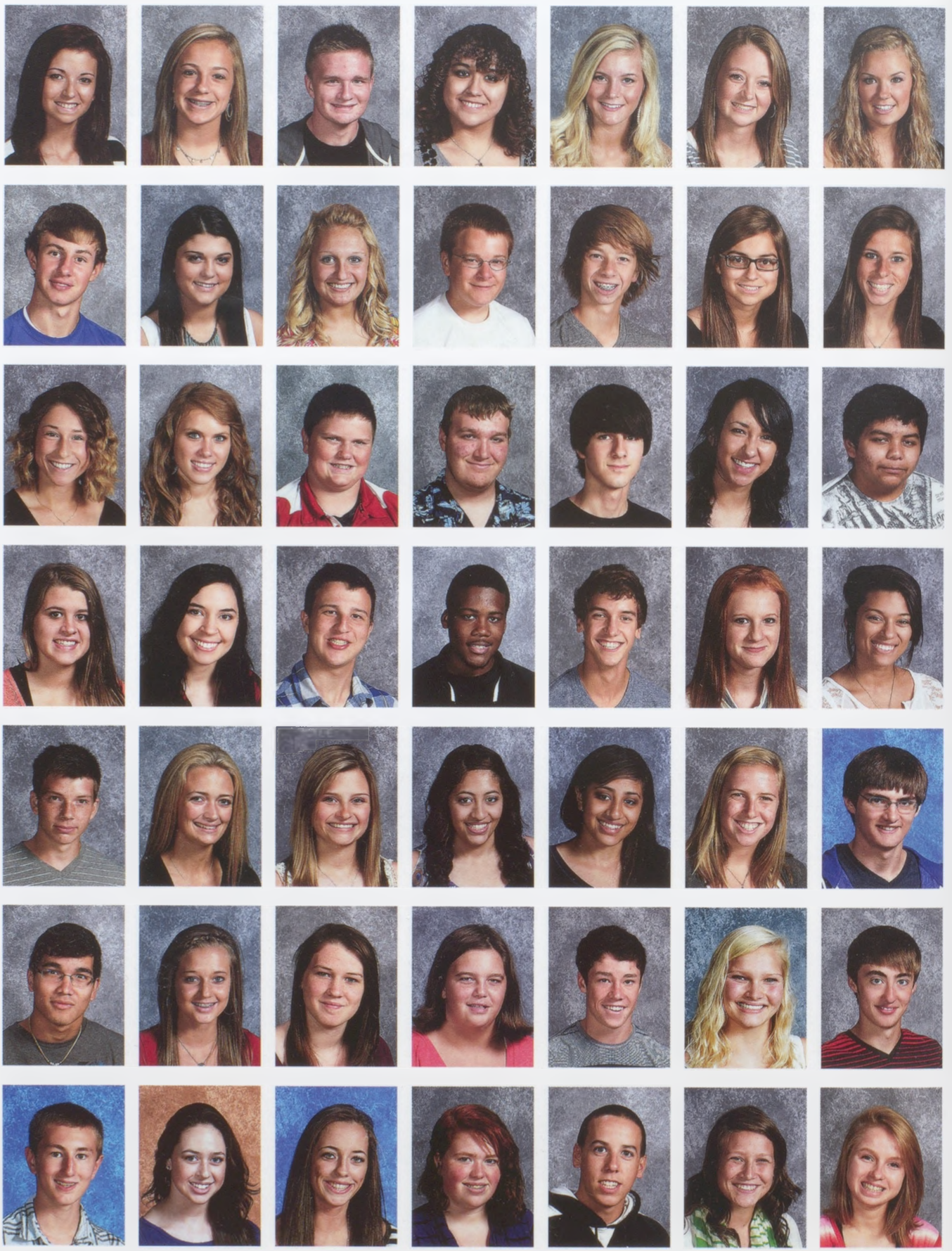
Brianna DeMoss
Grant Denny
Elvin Deumic
Riley Deutsch
Ammar Devedzic
Kaari Devens
Aditi Dinakar



Robert Doan
Austin Dobkins
Abby Dockum
Semir Dolic
Sarah Donahue
Chelsea Dooley
Hannah Downey

Ana Duarte
Sejad Dubinovic
Adi Dupanovic
Jaswick Dyett
Ashleigh Edwards
Nathan Eggleston
Ames Elkaz

◢Become a doctor and save a life, ◢See Eminem in concert,



Katelyn Elliot
Paige Elming
Jake Emblen
Diana Enos
Kenzie Erwine
Ellen Espeland
Addy Evans

Joe Fairchild
Maida Fatic
Shelby Fechner
Derek Fenton
Tyler Fenton
Katrina Fey
Kate Fjelstad

Kenzie Foldes
Maren French
Monte Friestad
Josh Fritz
Brandon Gabbert
Monica Gagne
Tomas Garduno

Rae Gathercole
Sonya Gau
Nick Gearhart
Jason Gentry
Parker Gesiriech
Megan Gibbons
Dominique Gibson

Konnor Gifford
Bailey Ginkens
Annie Goldsworthy
Ana Gonzalez
Juana Gonzalez
Mallorie Goodale
Michael Goss

Brock Goux
Haley Graham
Kyla Grau
Paige Grave
Sam Graving
Mollie Greenwood
Drew Grill

Nathan Grimes
Jacqueline Gurney
Abby Hallman
Kaitlyn Hammer
Seth Hammer
Brianna Handel
Emily Hanson

Meet Asking Alexandria, Walk over hot coals, See a ballet

Kyle Hanson
Michael Hanstad
Meghan Hart
Joshua Hasstedt
Nicole Hasstedt
Philip Hauser
Jackson Heiden

Taylor Heitkamp
Kenzie Hewitt
Cole Hickle
Josh Hjelmaas
Peyton Hoekstra
Taylor Holland
Paul Honold

Heather Horstman
Sydney Houston
Trent Howard
Hai Yang Huang
Sam Huisinga
Alex Hyberger
Ryan Ingebrand

Will Jackson
Ashley Jaeger
Jacob Jansen
Olivia Jenkins
Gabriel Jennings
Adam Jensen
Amanda Jensen

Kayla Jensen
Lizzie Jensen
Morgan Jensen
Taylor Joens
Rachel Johannesen
Adam Johanson
Mckayla Johnson

Shianne Johnson
Matt Jorgensen
Denzel Juarez
Amanda Judas
Nathan Jurgensen
Edin Kapetanovic
Jack Kapustka

Audrey Kaus
Austin Kerr
Taylor Kilstrom
Kaitlin Kimball
Calvin Kimrey
Jordan Kleinschmidt
Christopher Kline

at Bolshoi Theatre, Walk on water, Travel to all 7 continents,

Mugs Juniors (148,149)

Sara Knee
Kylie Knisley
Audrey Knollenberg
Jay Knuth
Sanjay Koduvalli
Jason Koenigsberg
Robert Koepp-Weldon

Saianish Komatireddy
Peyton Koonce
John Koopal
Anthony Kpedeh
Tony Kpedeh
Smith Kraai
Kelsey Kramer

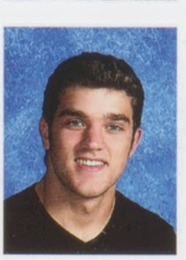
Alison Kretzinger
Kylie Krueger
Karrigan Kueny
◢Kyrena Kunze
James Labertew
Anna Lam
◢Zachary Lamberty

◢David Lamison
Kaitlin Landy
Bailey Lane
Matthew Larson
Pete Lashier
Anna Marie Lawrence
Chanel Leader

Devin Lile
Adam Logsdon
Hannah Loiler
Samantha Long
◢Joe Lorber
Dani Lorenz
Sydney Luu

Mike Mahanna
Eric Main
Jovana Majstorovic
Fermin Maldonado
Zahid Malic
Susan Manning
Sarah Margolin

Mckenna Matthies
Katie Maxcy
Daisha McAvaddy
Luke McDermott
Austin McFall
Joe McGinn
Christopher McGinnis



◢*Get meaningful tattoo,* ◢*Go backpacking in New Zealand,*

Tiffany McGregor
Lizzy McGuire
Carter Mehls
Dalton Meier
Katlyn Meiners
Kayla Merritt
Haggen Meyer

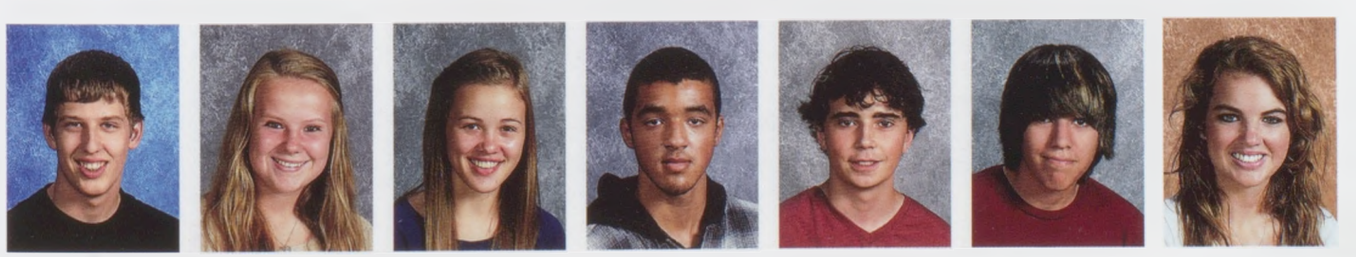
Sammy Meyer
Josiah Mielke
Caitlin Miller
Madeline Miller
Andrew Mills
Ashton Monroe
Ethan Moran

Sidnie Morris
Jasmin Muratovic
Connor Mutch
Kyle Natzke
Leonard
Ndayikeneurukiy
Triston Nearmyer
Ariel Needham

Abby Nelson
Bailee Nelson
Jacob Nelson
Tyler Nelson
Jessica Newton
Anh Nguyen
Brenda Nguyen

Cathy Nguyen
Oanh Nguyen
Jordan Nicolet
Amy Nihart
Andy Niu
Kevin Niu
Isabella North

Destiny Northey
Craig O'Keefe
Kevin Olguin
Katy Olsen
Shelby Ortiz
Ryan Ostwald
Bryce Parker



Grant Parker
Natalie Parker
Melinda Paszkiewicz
Fred Patrick
Jacob Perkins
Nicholas Pielak
Bailey Pierotti

Drive Nascar, Live in Hawaii for a year, Fly a plane,

Collin Pirie
Thomas Plum
Jordan Poore
Lucas Poore
Jack Poulson
Rozam Puli
Lauren Quinn

Matt Rahm
Emily Rasmussen
Kayla Reaman
Nyaruach Reat
Cameron Redshaw
Alex Reed
Erik Rhodes

Alex Rice
David Rice
Grant Riessen
Alexander Ritchie
Julie Roach-Linderman
Ann Robinson
Will Rose

Casey Roshek
Brandan Ross
Sarah Ross
Ryan Rubin
Muhanad Samawi
Sydney Sanchez
Aida Sarajlija

Mark Sauber
Derick Scarff
Mathew Scarlett
Max Schneider
Elizabeth Schraeger
Kyle Schulte
Laura Schwartz

Laura Scieszinski
Erwin Scott
Joseph Seda
Muhamed Sehic
Mikayla Seiler
Korbin Sesker
Quinn Severs

Taylor Seward
Brandon Sexton
Jordan Shearon
Paytyn Sheerin
Collin Shellenberger
Trae Shepherd
Allyse Shoeman

Walk through tunnel at Kinnick Stadium, Have a baby hippo

Jakob Shore
Michael Siebert
Lydia Sinclair
Blake Singbush
Hava Smajlovic
Eva Smith
Hadassah Smith

Kayla Smith
Stanzy Snyder
Anna Solberg
Swathi Somisetty
Travis Sorci
Mckayla Spiegeler
Joe Sprunger

Vaibhav Srikaran
Joseph Stebbins
Lauren Stenger
Brooke Stephens
Taylor Stephens
Katie Sterk
Tyler Steuber

Abby Stevens
Emily Stevens
Austin Stiles
Nick Stitzell
Brooke Stoll
Daniel Stromgren
Sierra Stukenholtz

Belmin Subasic
Becca Suvalsky
Brent Swanson
Madison Symber
Zainab Tanveer
Jenna Tayloe
Hannah Tetmeyer

Amanda Thamke
Travis Theisen
Stephanie Thierer
Lauren Thilges
Sam Thomas
Paige Tibbetts
Claire Timmerman

Chase Tinnermeier
Priscilla Towne
Evan Trainer
Brittany Tran
Adelisa Turnadzic
Shannon Turner
Salmin Tutic

as a pet, Go to every MLB Stadium, Travel around Europe,

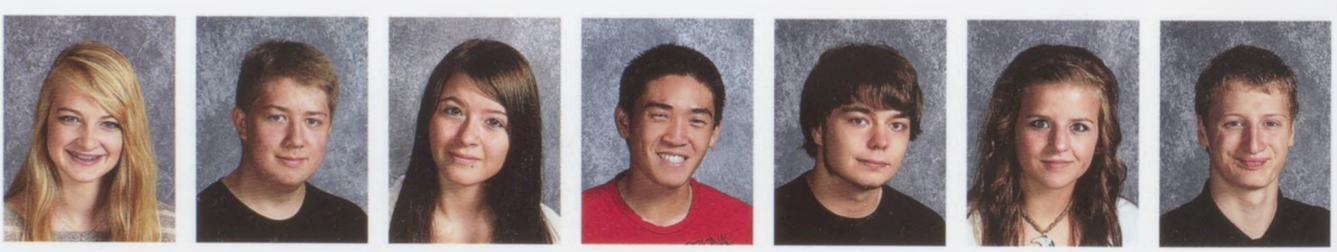
Drew Uding
Paige Vaden
Carmen Vajgrt
Derek Van Blarcom
Jared Van Langen
Hannah Van Zee
Natalie Vander Ploeg

Sloane Vander Zwaag
Millie Varley
Simrita Varma
Aldin Vejzovic
Katie Vryhof
Bolton Walker-King
Ellie Wallace

Rachel Walljasper
John Walsh
Grant Wanderscheid
Rachel Wanninger
Josh Ward
Lauren Ward
Nicholas Ward

Elizabeth Warnell
Stevie Watts
Cheryl Wells
Connor Westlake
Noah Wheeler
Connor White
Nick Whittaker

Alise Williams
Jeremy Williams
Selena Williams
Tate Williams
Walker Williams
Alison Williamson
Justin Winnett



Christopher Witmer
Wesley Witt
Zach Wolfe
Maddy Woodfine
Drew Woods
Kevin Wu
Elsie Wunn

Nick Wyman
Aminu Yakubu
Samuel Zemhelt

Design fashion line, Pay random stranger's bill, Build own

SOPHOMORES Class of 2015

Anya Addington
Justin Adkins
Sergio Alaniz
Anna Albaugh
Dinel Alic
Kate Allender
Jasmina Amidzic

Sasha Amos
Annalee Anderson
Christina Anderson
Jaci Anderson
◢Seth Andrews
Taylor Anthony
Hezekiah Applegate

Autumn Askew
Rachel Atkinson
Simran Aulakh
Ethan Babcock
Cameron Baccam
Clare Baker
Cole Balmer

Brooke Barrett
Conner Bast
Lal Rawng Bawia
James Beasley
Dane Beery
Dzenana Beganovic
Logan Beguhn

Alex Beltrame
Liera Bender
Ellen Bennett
Tyler Benson
Cameron Berg
Jack Bergstrom
Senad Besic

◢Katie Bevis
Brigette Biley
Jordan Binnie
Jennifer Birmingham
Scott Blank
Casey Bockenstedt
Mallory Boes

house from stone. ◢Inspire someone to pursue their dreams,

√did this.

Mandy Ruchti '15

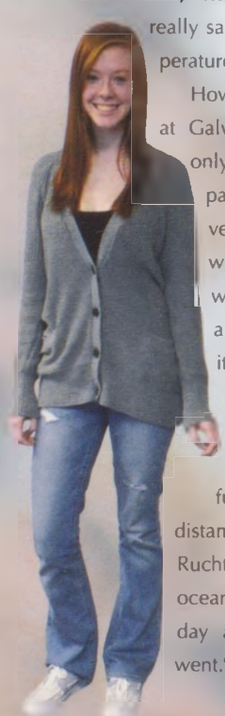
One hot and humid day in May, the water off the boardwalk in Galveston, TX, was brown and murky. That did not stop sophomore Mandy Ruchti from swimming in it.

"We went to the boardwalk not planning to go swimming," Ruchti said. "But we got bored of shopping and needed something to do."

Ruchti, and her family took a trip to Houston for their cousin's graduation. The next day, her family, her cousin's family, plus her aunt and grandma, made the hour drive to the boardwalk. The boardwalk overlooked the sometimes beautiful Gulf of Mexico.

Even though swimming was not in the plans, the Ruchti family were lucky enough to have their suits along.

"It was my very first time swimming in the ocean," Ruchti said. "The water was really salty and just the right temperature. It was amazing."



However, the Gulf of Mexico at Galveston was cloudy. "The only downside to the whole part was that the water was very murky and cluttered with debris," Ruchtisaid. "I was wearing a white suit and by the end of the day it was brown."

From the place Ruchti stood on the beach she could see the beautiful blue water out in the distance. "It was really pretty," Ruchti said. "Swimming in the ocean was the best part of the day and I'm really glad we went."

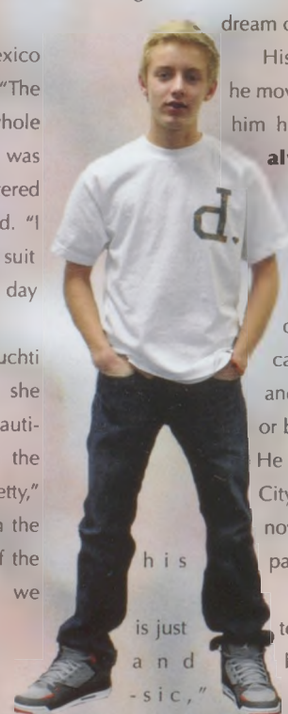
Broderick Stephenson '15

Barely old enough to drive, sophomore Broderick Stephenson, steers his dad's Dodge Ram toward the huge tent. He unloads his equipment: multiple lights, microphones, turntables, mixers, a pile of cords, t-shirts, speakers and a DJ Brody banner, and sets up for a sound check before the day's events.

The friend of Stephenson's mom hired him for the gig, the Tour de Cure, a bike race for the American Diabetes Association that about 1,000 people attended in Iowa City last summer.

Stephenson played a variety of music. **"All clean music of course,"** Stephenson said. **"But a lot of country and pop. Just the regular stuff you would hear on the radio."**

In additon to the bike event, Stephenson has DJ'd 15 gigs including four weddings. At age 15 he has created what most kids only dream of — his own DJ business.



His friends in Georgia, where he moved from last February, gave him his name DJ Brody. **"They always called me that so it just kinda stuck,"** Stephenson said.

Stephenson dreams of attending the University of Colorado at Boulder because of the music program and one day producing music or becoming a DJ for a rapper. He wants to move to New York City to further his career, but now he is just happy to keep passion alive.

"My main goal right now is just to get my name out there and keep playing music," Stephenson said.

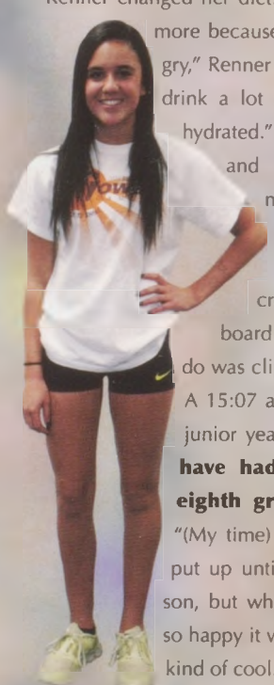
Andrea Renner '13

Standing behind the starting line at the state cross country meet, nothing seemed real to senior Andrea Renner. The anticipation of the sound of the starting gun made her heart beat faster and her stomach churn. The flag went up and the runners took their places on the line. The gun went off, and so did Renner along with dozens of others.

Renner had not been a dedicated runner her whole life. "Ali Perman (senior) and a few other friends talked me into it at first," Renner said.

It took a little time before Renner immersed herself. **"I think the reason I was able to get my goal was because of the love I have for running,"** Renner said. **"I just wanted to get better and get on the scoreboard."**

Besides running every day in the summer, Renner changed her diet. "I had to eat a lot more because I was always hungry," Renner said. "I also had to drink a lot more water to stay hydrated." Renner added carbs and fruit to her daily meals, and she also hired a trainer.



To get on the cross country record board all Renner had to do was clip a few seconds off. A 15:07 at the state meet her junior year put her there. **"I have had this goal since eighth grade,"** Renner said. "(My time) didn't get officially put up until around track season, but when it did I was just so happy it was up there. It's just kind of cool."

Shop in Paris, Learn how to make sushi, Attend the Olympics, Dance

Stories by Alexandra Reiher, Catherine Roby, Laura Schwartz, Kylie Le Page, Catherine Roby, Carly Crist

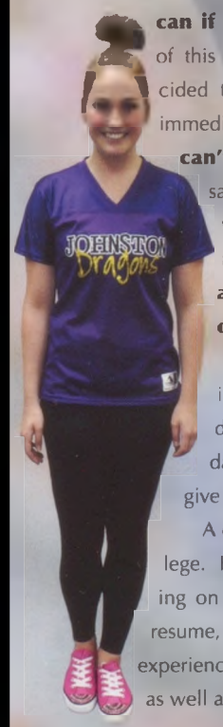
Katie Hermanson '13

Flying across the dance studio, senior Katie Hermanson flashes a huge grin. She covers the pain she feels, multiple stress fractures in her feet and two broken bones in her right foot that makes it difficult for her to dance.

Hermanson's foot specialist told her she could not do more damage to her feet, but she continues to dance. "The only thing I have to do now is just like push through the pain," Hermanson said. "I just take Ibuprofen before I dance."

And dance she does. Along with dancing outside of school, Hermanson dances for the varsity dance team. "I've sacrificed a lot so I can dance 25 hours a week, and I take voice lessons and everything," Hermanson said.

Her goal is Broadway and she has directed her life toward that end. **"I know that I want to (dance) and I feel like deep down, I can if I try hard enough."** As part of this decision Hermanson has decided to postpone going to college immediately after high school. **"I can't dance forever,"** Hermanson said. **"So I may as well dance while I can. (I'll) have fun and live my life for now and then go to school (later on)."**



Trips to New York put her in contact with people who dance. They told her that a job dancing on cruise ships would give her experience.

A cruise boat will be like her college. Hermanson thinks that working on the ship would improve her resume, and she feels it wil be a great experience because she wants to travel as well as dance.

Robert Koepp-Weldon '14

Junior Robert Koepp-Weldon walks out the back door of his house into the animal sanctuary. He opens an old rusted gate, and greets the four rottweilers. Next, he feeds the roadside hawk chicken bits from the local butcher. Then he pets the baby ocelot.

"Getting the chance to sit with a baby ocelot sleeping on your head is kind of a big deal," Weldon said.

Around school Weldon is known for wearing his distinct set of "My name is Panana" t-shirts — a red, a blue and a purple. His love for Panama is deeper than the sanctuary. His mother, Linda Weldon, and his closest friend, Luisalbert Juarez, live there. However, most of the time, Weldon lives in America with his grandfather.

"(My) mom has kind of a lot of animals," Weldon said. **"She doesn't have space for me and them, so Grandpa kinda took me along."**

He visits whenever he has enough time, mainly summer vacation and winter break.

Weldon's mother started the animal sanctuary when she saw many native Panamanians catching birds and selling them to tourists.

Weldon plans to join her in Panama after graduation and attend the University of Panama to study animals.

Spreading the awareness for lesser known species of birds is Weldon's dream. He hopes to add reptiles to the sanctuary by 2030.

Nicholas Barker '14

Taking wicked turns, hanging air, and gaining some insane speed, two teenagers race up the Wyoming mountain trails on dirt bikes. Each sharp turn and higher hill add another obstacle to overcome.

In the summer of 2012, junior Nicholas Barker and friend Tyler Chapman spent a week in Wyoming enjoying dirt biking in the hot sun. "My mom said it was someplace with nicer weather," Barker said. "We did research and found a cabin up in the hills."

One day was spent seeing Old Faithful, but the main focus of the trip was dirt biking, including on some trails in a national forest. It was his first time to Wyoming and biking up in the mountains was a lot different. **"Dirt biking is all about pushing yourself to go faster and take sharp turns,"** Barker said. The added incline became a new and exciting challenge. "Me and (Tyler) pretty much raced each other to get up the hills."

Barker got started riding when, on his 12th birthday, he was surprised with his first dirt bike. This major upgrade from riding a bicycle on gravel roads was a long time coming. "My cousin had one when we were younger on a farm," Barker said. Now Barker joined his cousin riding all over the farmland.

"I've been dirt biking for a while and it's fun by yourself," Barker said. **"But when you have friends that do it with you it really becomes more fun because you can one-up each other."**

for a cruise ship, Preserve Panama's national bird, Go to NHL game,

Addie Bolles
Taylor Bonnett
Kelli Bormann
Josh Borwick
Aly Bowen
Katy Brandon
Brian Brass

Aaron Brault
Katie Breeden
Trevor Bridgeman
Thea Briggs
Nick Brocka
Megan Buckallew
Sam Buckley

Jake Bunner
Dustin Burg
Shane Burgess
Alex Burns
Eric Butoto
Kameryn Buttrey
Kelsey Caffrey

Macall Campbell
Sarah Caporelli
Lenin Cardwell
Georgia Carroll
Alexander Casten
Jack Catus
Marcy Chamberlin

Terrance Cheeks
Alysa Cheng
Brad Cherrier
Kelly Cherrier
Nejra Cikotic
Logan Clabaugh
Katherine Claes

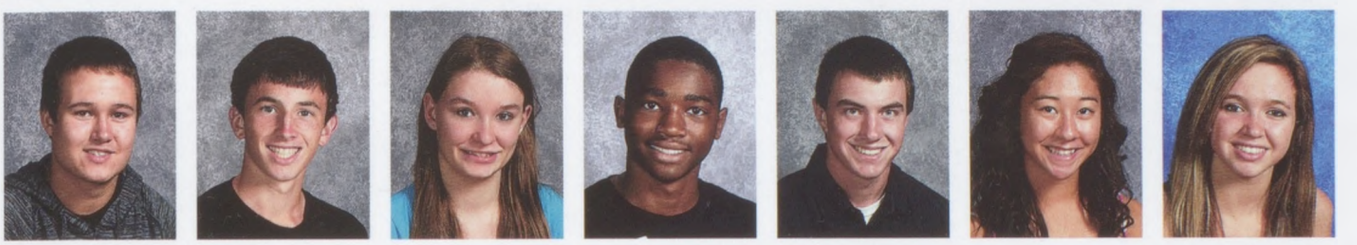
Jordan Clark
Levi Clark
Bailey Clothier
Tristan Coaldrake
Mickie Coenen
Grant Collison
Nicholas Collison

Blake Conant
Natalie Coomes
Hailey Cooper
Danny Corbin
Riley Corell
Tanner Correy
Dylan Cottrell

Record an album. Cause a domino effect by falling back in

Makayla Cox
Betsy Coy
Ashton Cracraft
Gabi Crahan
Ma Cuan
Michaela Cubit
Max Culbert

Daekwon Cunningham
Katie Cunningham
Jennifer Curiel
Jake Dalbey
Lizzie Daly
John Danielson
Haley Daughhetee



Eric Davenport
Ben Davis
Kathleen Davis
Kyle Davis
Luke Davis
Michaela Davis
Mikayla Davis

Tyler Davis
Joe DeFrancisco
Lilian Degen
Jared DeGroot
Kameron DeMoss
Alyssa Denny
Julia Diehl

Karly Dings
Ashley Dixson
Tyler Doherty
Jon Dolan
Jack Dolde
Christian Dorrance
Darius Doswell

Hayley Dotseth
Leigha Duckett
Scarlett Eagle
Sarah Eikenberry
Elric Ekstrand
Denis Elkaz
Jordan Ellis

Andrew Else
Isaac Enos
Brianna Erickson
Gabby Escoto
Mathew Evans
Clare Farrell
Cody Faught

line, Wear a shirt saying "life" and hand out lemons on the street,

Nathanial Ferguson
Niki Ferguson
Brandon Ferin
Tommy Fischer
Trent Folsom
Taylor Fontanini
Mikayla Foster

Austin Foust
Jonathan Freymark
Samantha Friesner
Cassidy Fritcher
John Fritzemeier
Jacqui Galang
Lashawnda Galler

Kara Garside
Katy Gay
Heather Georgick
Chase Gill
Sydney Ginkens
Alec Ginsberg
◢Myles Glandorf

Rachel Godwin
Abby Gorsche
Kat Gould
Lydia Graber
Kennedy Graeser
Anthony Graham
Hannah Graham

Riley Graham
Stephanie Graham
Rebecca Gray
Kelsey Green
Zach Grenell
◢Sachin Gupta
Jeff Guttin

Taylor Gwennap
Sam Hainline
Taylor Hall
Jill Hankins
Taylor Hankins
Addison Hardy
Casey Harm

Brady Harper
Luke Hart
Shannon Hartle
Nicholas Hartley
Aaron Harvey
Nermin Hasancevic
Connor Haskins

◢Run a full marathon, ◢Play in PGA Master's Golf Tournament

Shannon Haskins
Zachary Hauser
Brandy Hayen
Shelby Haynes
Sam Hazlewood
Katie Heglin
Baylee Heiden

Andrew Heuss
Nathan Hibbs
Daniel Hoddenbagh
Ferid Hodzic
Nick Hogan
Clayton Holcomb
Haley Hoss

Shana Hudson
Darian Huff
Shelby Hughes
Brennah Humphries
Troy Ikeda
◢Adnene Irvin
Matt Jacob

Jacob Jansen
Shuda Jarboe
Ema Jaskic
Mitch Jaworski
Spencer Jenkins
Krysta Johnson
Luke Johnson

Mark Johnson
Derek Jones
Madi Jorgensen
◢Brynn Kabel
Joel Kafer
Austin Kain
Justin Kain

Travis Kain
Elea Kaptain
Teddy Katz
Amy Keech
Rylee Keith
Dawson Kerr
Emma Kielty

Karli Killian
Alec Kilstrom
Carly Kinning
Allison Klein
Jordyn Kleve
Kaity Knisley
Austen Knowlton

and win a green jacket, ◢Ride a zebra, ◢Go to Ireland,

Sierra Koder
◢Gillian Kolotsane-Wren
Chloe Kostal
Ryan Kramme
Holly Krause
Ross Kromminga
Sandra Kromminga

Sarah Kromminga
Jack Krone
Harrison Kruse
Scott Kruse
Alec Kuehn
Cole Lafollette
Walter Lagerblade

Chase Langos
Natalie Larimer
Keely Larkin
Emily Larson
Jessica Larson
Collin Laughlin
Kylie Le Page

Gabby Ledesma
Nick Lee
Lizzy Leffler
Zillah Leggitt
Emily Lehman
Rachel Li
Jeremy Lilly

Ben Linscheid
Maleena Lo
◢Austin Long
Alek Luong
Cooper Maahs
Maddi MacGregor
Scott Magnani

Zorana Makitan
Andjela Mandic
Noy Manyvong
Sydney Maras
Hasan Maratovic
Ellie Marckmann
Allison Martin

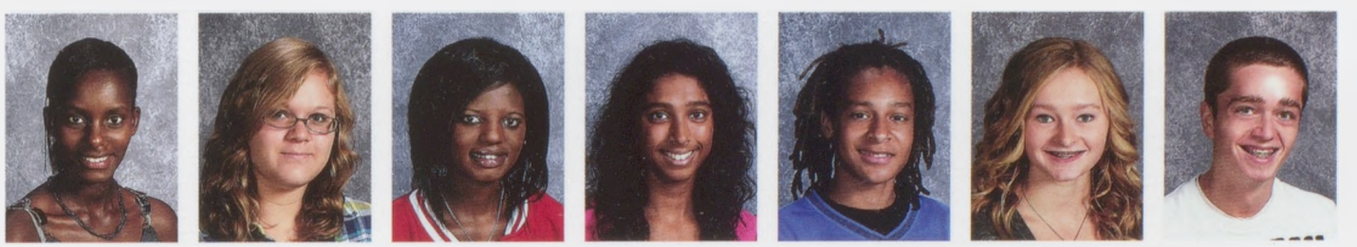
Corey Marx
Tyler Matthies
John May
Lucas May
Alec McCombs
Jacob McDermott
◢Emily McGinn

◢*Go to Warped Tour,* ◢*Meet Jim Carrey,* ◢*Travel the world to*

James McGowan
Katie Merritt
Jennifer Meyer
Sean Meyer
Emily Michael
Cameron Michael
Jack Miller

Marcus Miller
Kate Minney
Smeet Mistry
Courtney Mithelman
Peyton Mohrfeld
Alma Montes
Jacob Moore

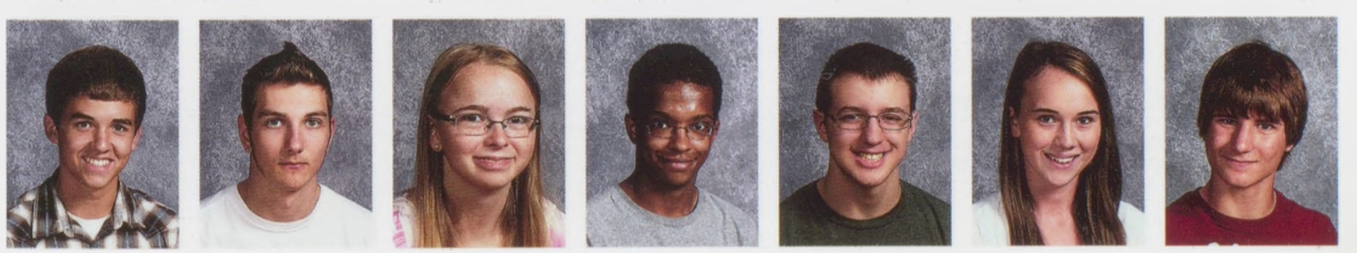
Katarina Moore
Jacob Morrow
Jacob Mull
John Mullen
Martha Mulu
Jesus Munoz
Jacob Murray



Odette Muziranenge
Kaitlyn Nagel
Hope Namahoro
Eisha Nathwani
Julian Neely
Natalie Nelson
Nick Neumann

Sara Nezirevic
Daven Ngo
Jennie Ngo
Alex Nichol
Brad Nielsen
Ethan Niu
Riley Noble

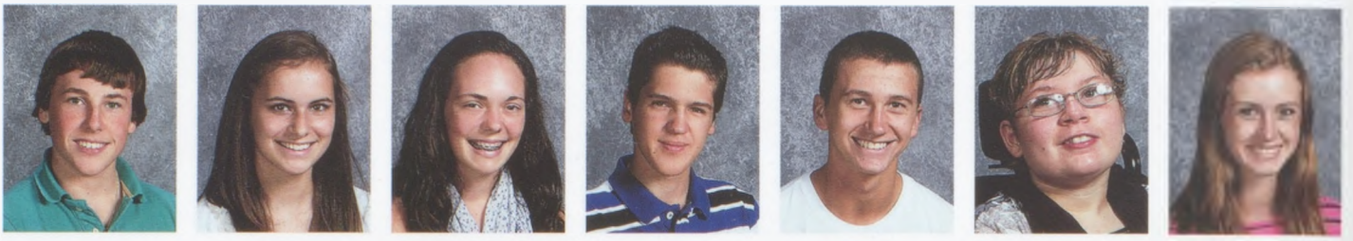
John Norris
Sidney O'Brien
Isaac Ochoa
Andrew Okumah
Alize Olson
Feyza Olson
Endi Ordagic



Jacob Orr
Ajdin Osmanovic
Kayla Owens
Tom Oyondi
Bob Pankrukhin
Kennedy Papian
Andy Pargulski

study plants, Fly in a hot air balloon over wild animals,

Luke Pater
Tori Pearson
Addy Pender
Simon Pendleton
Ben Perman
Rae Perry
Riley Peterson



Jake Pineda
Bailey Pohlman
Henry Pohlmeyer
Jady Polson
Nikia Pope
Ben Poss
Nikash Pradhan

Kaitlin Pranger
◢Travis Price
Austin Probst
Abby Puk
Bailey Purdy
Zach Rains
Anna Rasmussen

Andrew Reaman
Sierra Reasoner
Buop Reat
Aryaa Regmi
Alexandra Reiher
Elizabeth Reiher
Michael Reiter

Ben Renner
Nathan Richards
Jacob Rietz
Bailey Robinson
Catherine Roby
Anne Rogers
◢Ari Ross

Mandy Ruchti
Keaton Rumer
Oliver Rutherford
Erik Salmon
Nick Saluri
JuJu Samawi
Zach Schmidt

Eric Schneider
Andrea Schultz
Jared Seay
Kevin Seay
Clifford Sharp
Matt Shaver
Ruchi Shekar

◢*Fly in zero gravity plane,* ◢*Play one-on-one with Lebron James*

Johnathan Shepard
Carsen Shereck
Grant Shoeman
◢Devon Shorter
Rachel Siedenburg
Regen Siems
Hannah Sieren

Reid Sinnett
Kade Sisler
Hatidza Sivac
Connor Smith
Jennifer Smith
Zachary Smith
Monica Snyder

Lindsay Soards
Puja Sookram
Nicky Spear
Caleb Spencer
Vasundhara Srivastava
Becca Stahr
Kendall Staley

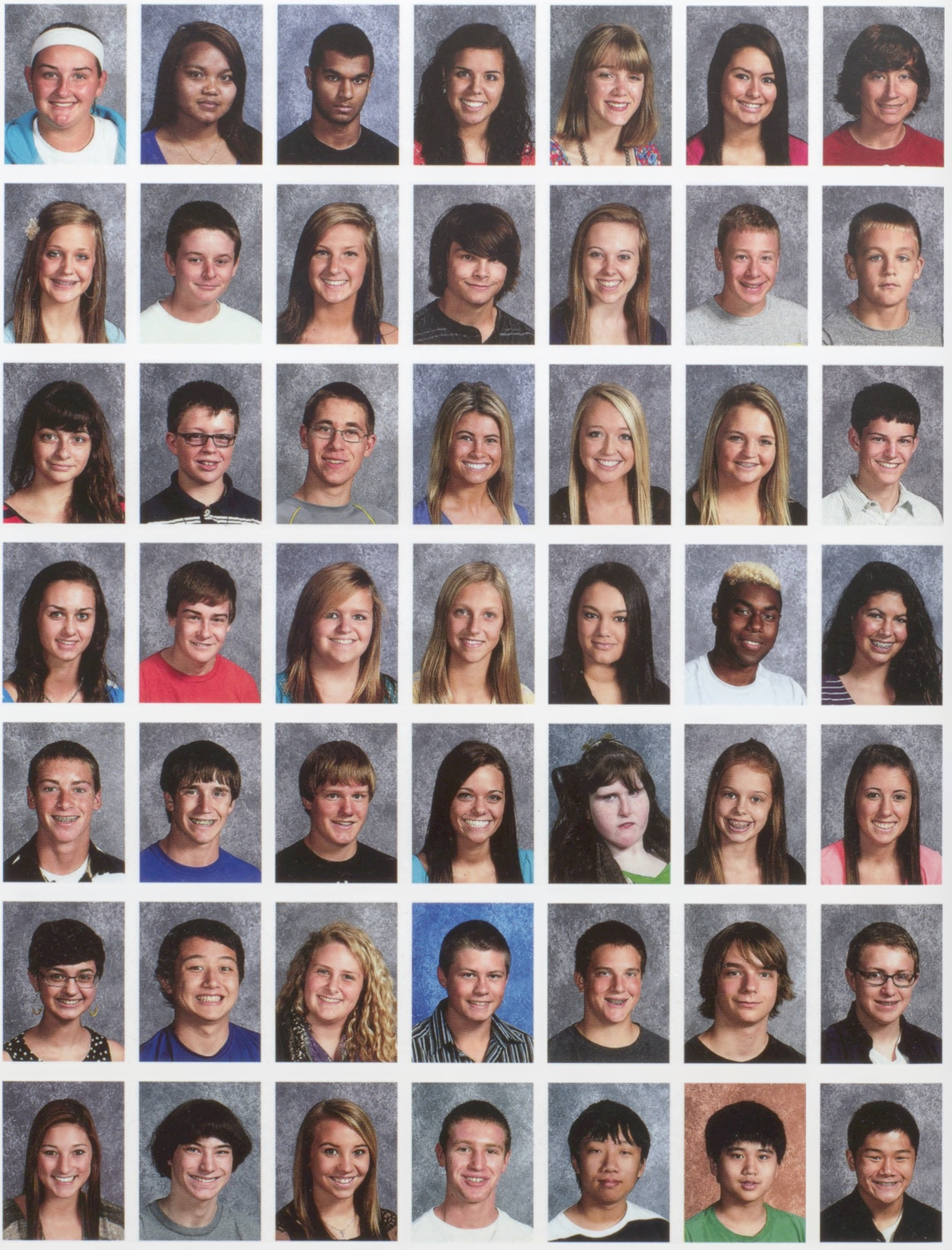
Nate Standish
Charles Steinfeldt
Broderick Stephenson
Emily Stevens
Quinn Stigers
Jacob Stoen
Sara Stoutenberg

Haley Strang
Kaylee Stubbs
Kristen Stucker
◢Blake Sturges
Jose Suarez
◢Elliot Suiter
Barbie Sullivan

Leon Sun
Kole Swesey
Bailey Swift
Matt Tanner
Casey Taylor
Chanel Terpstra
Erica Thacker

Sean Thatcher
Emma Thayer
Caitlin Thede
Mike Thiel
Sam Thielen
Scott Thomas
Payton Thompson

◢*Play NFL for the Eagles,* ◢*Own a nice car,* ◢*Eat a squirrel*



Rylee Thompson
Becca Thuan
Troy Tigges
Jenna Tindall
Meredith Toebben
Alex Townsend
Enzo Trombino

Rebekah Trost
Colton Trowbridge
Amy Twickler
Joshua Untrauer
Emily Van Wiel
Lewis Vanderwaal
Shane Vaughan

Jorjia Vawter
Dylan Vinzant
Michael Vonderhaid
Demique Waddell
Carlyn Waetke
Megan Waggener
Zach Walker

EmmaGrace Walter
Adam Walton
Marissa Ward
Shayla Warrick
Cora Weatherford
Jordan Weddington
Emily Wenger

Nolan Wengert
Alex White
Connor White
Samantha Whitney
Amanda Wilber
Alyssa Wilcutt
Samantha Wilkinson

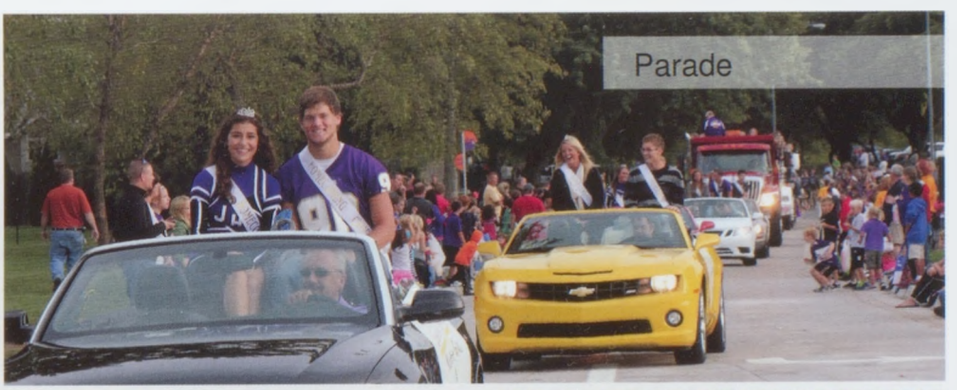
Lexi Williams
Avery Williams-Tyerman
Zoe Wilson
Cale Winchester
Connor Winjum
Bradly Wonderlin
Devon Wood

Morgan Woods
Alex Wright
Danielle Wright
Connor Wunsch
Daniel Xu
Dennis Xu
Nick Young

Go fishing in Canada, Fish for salmon in Alaska, Travel to

Selena Young
Noah Zenor
◢Anne Zemhelt
Tommy Zinselmeier
Tim Zuo

PowderPuff



Parade

Rock Around THe Clock

Flash FORWARD

Events during homecoming sophomores will be more involved in as they move up in high school.

all fifty states, ◢Spend night in an underwater hotel,

√did this.

Ben Garlock '13

A crowd of athletes flooded the Drake Fieldhouse, filling the track with little room to warm up. The atmosphere was steaming hot.

One member of the Drake-qualifying 4x200 relay, senior Ben Garlock, stretched, as another member of the team, not on the relay, senior Kyle Timmerman, offered inspiration. **"This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance,"** Timmerman said. **"Make the most out of this opportunity."**

Being Garlock's first time running at Drake, he wanted to make his team and fans proud. "My brother ran varsity when he went to this school and it motivated me to want to run varsity," Garlock said.

Walking out of the steamy fieldhouse, Garlock and the three other members of the 4x200 relay — seniors Cullen Maahs, Gabe Cardwell, and sophomore Jordan Weddington — were cooled by the fresh air.

"It's exciting just being there," Timmerman said. "Not very many people are in it, you just gotta be the best."

The 4x200 relay team earned 10th place with a time of one minute and 31.09 seconds.

"No one was expecting us to do any good because we had never been good in track before," Garlock said. However, in the 2012 track season, there were more qualifiers for the Drake Relays and state than ever before. The team also won conference and placed in the top three in districts.

"I was surprised because I just didn't know that we had the type of runners that we had on the team until we actually started doing the meets," Garlock said. "I realized that we were actually a great track team."

Craig Kimble '13

Football players dream of endings like the one in the Urbandale/Johnston first round football playoff game.

During the second overtime at Johnston Stadium, the J-Hawks threw a long pass into the end zone, but the Dragons defense deflected it. So they kicked a field goal to take the lead, 55-52. Then, running back Marcus Montgomery spun off a tackle and scored a touchdown ending the game with 58-55.

It was sweet revenge. "We lost to them twice last year, both at their field, and lost to them this year at their field in the regular season, and then beat them at our field in triple overtime," senior Craig Kimble said.

The Dragons were underdogs. **"Everyone thought they were going to beat us,"** Kimble, a defensive end, said. **"But we came out ready to play."**

Back-and-forth scoring occurred during regulation and into the overtimes. "It sucks to be in overtime but it's great because you get another chance," Kimble said.

Central Iowa Sports Awards chose the game as the game of the year ,beating out the Iowa City West vs. Ankeny state basketball game and the Pride of Iowa Conference senior All-Star game.

Kimble relished beating Urbandale. "After losing to them three times in a row, winning was great," Kimble said. **"And it's Urbandale, our rivals."**

Hailey Kromminga '13

With the desks all cleared to the sides of the classroom at Indianola High School except for the teacher's desk, seniors Hailey Kromminga, Connor Ward, Karsen Kramer, and sophomore Max Culbert sang to a judge seated at the desk.

It was Kromminga's first time trying out for All-State Honor Choir. "I wanted to see if I could actually make it in because I just love to sing and make music," Kromminga said.

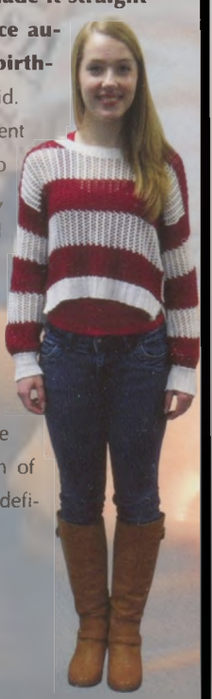
Each school can only send 28 students to auditions. "I got a bit nervous when I walked in, but I felt good about it after and knew I did my best," Kromminga said.

Groups practiced and attended auditions together in a quartet. **"You're not singing all by yourself, but it's nerve racking because you're the only one singing your part so you have to be confident in it,"** Kromminga said. Everyone practiced the same songs and sang sections in front of the judge.

"When I found out I made it straight through, I was happy since audition day was my 18th birthday as well," Kromminga said.

Along with her excitement came exhaustion. "I didn't do anything after to celebrate, I was tired because we had to wake up crazy early that morning," Kromminga said.

All-staters performed at Hilton Coliseum and also practiced with the entire All-State choir at ISU. "I had the chance to sing with a bunch of really good singers. It was definitely worth it."



Go to NFL stadiums, Moose hunt in Alaska, See Broadway musical,

Stories by Megan Cacciatore, Carly Crist, Amanda Jensen, Sanjay Kodavalli, Catherine Roby, Claire Severich

Grant Denny '14

Traditionally, the seniors on the Capitals's hockey team shave all of the rookies' hair into funny styles. **"My rookie year, I got earmuffs,"** junior Grant Denny said. **"It was so ugly."** The cut consisted of two circles of hair around his ears, and a strip of hair connecting the two.

The Capitals bonded as a team on a daily basis. **"We hang out for about 45 minutes every day before practice,"** Denny said. **"If no one was scheduled on the ice afterwards, we would just mess around on the ice."** Through all this team bonding, Denny also grew as a player.

As a rookie his freshman year, Denny played JV. As a sophomore and junior he played JV and varsity. This season, Denny had set his sights high, the Turkey Cup. "The week before the match, it was all that we could think about; it's just Turkey Cup."

The Capitals had even more desire to win since they had lost at this very tournament to the Oak Leafs the previous year, their rivals since 1994.

"The JV went into a shootout," Denny said. The teams were tied, 2-2. The match was decided when the puck raced into the opponent's net.

The varsity game was also close. "It was really tiring," Denny said. The Capitals were winning 3-2, a dangerously close score. But as the final second passed, the score stood. "(I had a) Huge adrenaline rush," Denny said.

Barbie Sullivan '15

The cue came from youth choir director Susan Waller. "It's time," Waller said. The signal caused sophomore Barbie Sullivan and the other 59 members of the Plymouth Church Matins Youth Choir to assemble on the Garden of the Gods visitors' center balcony.

With the mountains of Colorado's Front Range looming in the background, the members of the choir sang "Praise His Holy Name." Visitors to the Garden of the Gods joined the spontaneous event by nodding their heads and clapping. At the end of the performance, they applauded. **"We get to do these really cool things together and it makes us closer,"** Sullivan said.

Each year the Matins Choir travels for a week somewhere in the United States to sing, the purpose being to spread happiness. During what they call The Tour, the choir sings at churches, nursing homes and at random locations like balconies. They fund raise by selling Papa Murphy's pizzas, holding a congregation-wide garage sale and raking the leaves of parishioners.

Another singing opportunity occurred at the Cadet Chapel on the Air Force Academy base in Colorado Springs.

The chapel's peaceful atmosphere awed Sullivan with its stained glass windows that emitted colorful patterns, a massive cross held by tiny wires and a pipe organ that stretched 32 feet high. **"It is such a special, reverent place,"** Sulliva said.

Ben Linscheid '15

Motorcycles had intrigued junior Ben Linscheid long before he ever rode one. After dirt biking his freshman year in Arizona with his father, Linschied became even more curious.

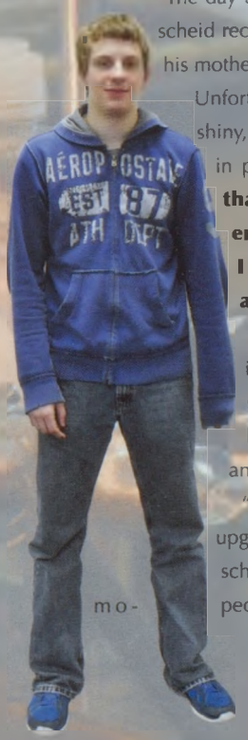
When he returned home, Linscheid joked with his parents about getting his own two-wheeled vehicle. His mother did not approve. **"She kept saying 'I want to keep you in one piece,'"** Linschied said.

In spite of it, Linscheid kept nudging. "I just wanted to be able to get to school and places." Linschied said.

It took a year of bugging his two older siblings for rides for Linschied to strengthen his case to his parents, who finally gave in.

Linscheid initially decided on a moped not only because they are easy to control, but they cost substantially less and get better gas milage than a motorcycle.

The day the bike was delivered Linscheid received a text at school from his mother telling him of its arrival.



Unfortunately, his brand new shiny, red moped was delivered in pieces. **"It kinda sucked that I had to put it together,"** Linscheid said, **"Cause I wanted to ride it right away."**

After three months of riding the moped, with a top speed of 35 mph, Linscheid began to look forward to yet another improvement.

"Now it's made me want to upgrade to a motorcycle," Linscheid said. "I guess because mopeds really aren't fast."

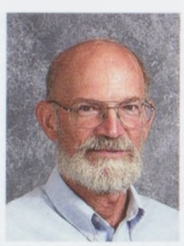
Tour all of Europe, Kiss in the rain, Get a motorcycle,

FACULTY

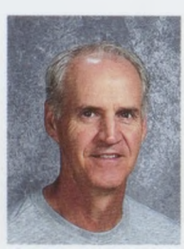
Lisa Adams
Tonia Backous
Sue Baker
Jodi Beaderstadt
Jane Behrens
Audrey Bell
Jan Bjurstrom

Jeri Blanchard
Andrea Cashin
Teri Christiensen
Sue Cline
Kelly Coleman
Kym Cresta
Laura Crist

Dale D'iapico
Lowell Devries
Jesse Dowell
Mitch Eagles
Jody Ferguson
Sara Fitzpatrick
Russ Fortune



Teresa Francois
Lacey Fulton
Mary Gipp
Rich Gradoville
Thomas Griffin
Stephanie Guthrie
Kathy Hammans



Dick Hansen
Patrick Hennes
Josh Heyer
Gerald Hollingsworth
Allison Hoskins
Jennifer Hrubetz
Brad Jacobson

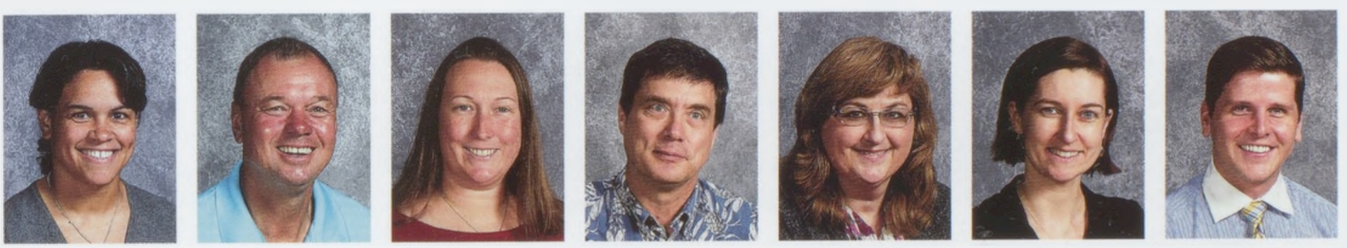
Matthew Jaschen
Jason Jauron
Marie Johnson
Mary Ann Johnson
Patrick Kearney
Emily Kenny
Jerry Kinder

Sing the national anthem at an I-Cub's game. Visit all New

Ben Knight
Julie Kosman
Susan Krebs
Curt Larkin
Theresa Lorey
Sarah Marckmann
Patrick Mattingly

Dustin Mead
Sarah Moore
Diane Nelson
Tamra Nelson
Debra Nicholson
Norah Olguin
Jennifer Palmer

Heath Pattschull
Amanda Paulson
Julie Probst
Adam Retzlaff
Denise Richards
Jeff Robilliard
Samantha Robilliard



Alicia Rollison
Gary Ross
Amanda Rynning
Mark Schillerstrom
Brigitte Schrock
Laura Scott
Eric Shepard

Chris Siewert
Steve Smith
Chanhom Tharrington
Kelly Thompson
Carolyn Ware
Roz Weaver
Dan Weiss

Brian Woodley
Jeremy Yenger

Seven Wonders of the World, Attend the Olympic Games

I did this.

Jaryd Lawrence '13

At the foot of a cliff, senior Jaryd Lawrence treaded water. Atop the cliff an intimidated Dylan Jones, senior, peered at his friend, then leaped. "Dylan had the funniest face ever jumping down," Lawrence said.

Skiing and boating were the goals of the Lawrence's family vacation at a lake house at the Lake of Ozarks in Missouri. However, Lawerence and his friend also cliff jumped.

The cliff had five different levels from which to jump. They started on the middle one and then proceeded to the highest.

"As we reached the face of the cliff, I got really scared, but I felt like it wasn't going to kill me, so I decided to do it, " Lawrence said. He took a quick glance at the water and jumped. **" I felt like the water was far away, but all of a sudden I was there,"** Lawrence said.

Jones took a glance from the top and decided against jumping. However, Lawrence coaxed him with the age-old adage 'I do it you do it.' "Dylan never thought I would do it, so he agreed to the deal," Lawrence said. "Since I did do it, he had to do it too."

Although Jones' mom thought cliff jumping was stupid and questioned why they would ever do it, Lawrence thought it was lots of fun and would definitely do it again. **"Once off the cliff, I felt committed, there was no going back,"** Lawrence said. **"I got this really weird feeling of free fall."**

Alex Juergens '13

Senior Alex Jurgens thinks hiking with 55 pounds on his back, in the middle of the wild, with nothing to eat but freeze-dried food as the way to spend two weeks in summer. "I like how I get to go camping, but I carry all my stuff with me," Juergens said. "I don't have to worry about driving."

His latest backpacking adventure, a two-week hike through northwestern New Mexico with his boy scout troup, was the longest he had ever been on. **"We went to two different mountains, and went 80 miles,"** Juergens said. **"After about five days, I started missing actual food."**

Apparently, the wildlife did enjoy the food though. One night a black bear came into their camp and was only five feet away, looking for food. **"Everything there stole our food - or tried to,"** Juergens said. **"Thousands of squirrels would take our food, even in the wrapper, and run away with it."**

Despite the trials, it was a worthwhile accomplishment. "That was the first time I'd gone up an actual mountain," Juergens said. **"We were at 12,500 feet. It was fun getting to the top, because the winds were at 60 miles an hour, and we could see Colorado."**

Iowa, New Mexico, Colorado and Minnesota are all familiar backpacking territory for Jergens, and he hopes to add more states to the list. **"I'd love to go on the Appalacian trail from Maine to Georgia,"** Juergens said.

Kelly Ridenour '13

Frantically wiping ranch dressing off the Thanksgiving turkey, senior Kelly Ridenour worries the dinner was ruined. Her older brother, Joe, thought that it would be a good flavor additive, but a horrified Kelly would have to disagree. Realizing there is nothing more she can do, she throws the bird in the oven and hopes for the best.

"Thankfully, I got most of the ranch off so it didn't taste bad," Ridenour said.

Every year members of Ridenour's family, which include her father and his three brothers and sisters, plan family get-togethers. In 2011 her immmediate family took charge of Thanksgiving. They cooked for roughly 80 people.

For the turkey, Ridenour skipped following a recipe. "I smell the herbs and spices to know what to add," Ridenour said.

No matter how old a family member is, there are there are always a few restrictions. **"My dad cut it (the turkey) up because I'm not trusted with knives,"** Ridenour said, **"cause of my klutzy nature."**

Ridenour loves cooking and cooks almost every day. Somedays she brings a dozen cupcakes and other assorted goodies to the halls of the high school, a welcome delight to her peers.

Seniors Erin Conlan, Kayla Jansen and Laura Ulm are three of her samplers at school. They give her feedback.

Cooking for others has always been a form of enjoyment for Ridenour, and a chance to cook for her family and friends is an accomplishment for Ridenour to be proud of.

Break a world record, Learn to play piano, Ride in a hot air balloon,

Stories by Swathi Somisetty, Hannah Wiles, Catherine Roby, Katrina Fey, Alexandra Reiher, Megan Buckallew

Emily Hanson '14

Junior Emily Hanson listened as the two zipline experts told the group about the Hawaiian forest. Awed by the streams and tall trees, they reached the first zipline platform. **"It was beautiful,"** Hanson said. **"The nature looked like a movie scene."**

Hanson, her mom, her aunt as well as a few other friends, ziplined for the first time on an a vaction to Oahu.

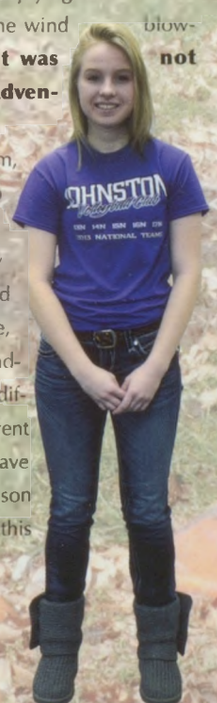
After touring the first of seven platforms, one zipliner expert ziplined to the other side while the other expert showed the group how to put on the equipment.

Hanson waited as the first person in the group slid down. "I saw them going and thought it would be faster; it didn't look as scary as I thought it would be," Hanson said.

Soon after, it was Hanson's turn. "I was so excited," Hanson said. "This was something I had been waiting for for a long time."

Hanson slid down, enjoying the beautiful scenery, fresh air, and the wind blowing against her face. **"It was not just relaxing, it was adventurous and thrilling."**

After the last platform, Hanson and her group talked about the great experience and how they definitely wanted do it again. "Next time, I want to do a more advanced one, maybe in a different country with different scenery which doesn't have height restrictions," Hanson said. "I also hope to do this with a lot more family."



Chase Langos '15

For sophomore Chase Langos' 12th birthday, his grandpa bought him a flying lesson.

The lesson took place during spring break at a small airport in Arizona near where Langos' grandparents lived.

"The instructor was an old guy," Langos said, "And it was one of those small little two-person planes. We were up there; he was showing me what everything was. He showed me all the buttons and how to steer."

After the short lesson, Langos' instructor landed the plane and gave him a turn.

"I flew the plane by myself," Langos said. The instructor let Langos have complete control while he sat back and enjoyed the flight. **"It was really cool to look out the window, and see the sky,"** Langos said. **"It was different than any other thing I had seen before."**

Lango's lesson lasted nearly an hour-and-a-half in which he learned how to fly the plane with little assistance.

After Langos took his turn, the instructor landed the plane because Langos was not comfortable with landing. **"I was scared and I didn't want to die,"** Langos said. Even though Langos wanted to land the plane by himself, he did not want anything to go wrong. "I didn't wanna crash," Langos said.

At the end of the lesson Langos knew that he did not want to be a pilot. He also did not want to do fly a plane ever again, but it was a neat experience and he was glad he got to do it.

Annalee Anderson '15

Stuffed into a hot, noisy 15-passenger van, sophomore Annalee Anderson was finally on her way to see the ocean for the first time. With Anderson on the trip to Florida in June 2012, were her mom, her dad, her sister, her sister's boyfriend, his 3-year-old son, her oldest brother, his wife, and her other older brother, senior Myles Anderson.

Anderson coud not help her exictment as they got closer and closer. "I was pumped," Anderson said. "When we were getting closer I kept trying to find the ocean."

When the family reached Florida, they checked into their hotel, which was on Daytona Beach. The next day, Anderson woke up feeling ready to spend a day at the beach. **"I thought it was absolutely amazing and very beautiful,"** Anderson said. **"I just stared at it for like three hours because it was so beautiful."**

To add to Anderson's experience, she and her family saw a group of rare turtles come out and lay their eggs on the shore. "They buried (the eggs) and the beach patrol put up tape around them," Anderson said. "It was really cool to watch."

After spending the day at Daytona Beach, the family packed up their stuff and left for their next hotel at Cocoa Beach, and then Vero Beach after that.

Three days later it was time to leave. Anderson and her family packed up their belongings and hit the road for Iowa after spending 12 days in Florida. **"I would go back in a heartbeat,"** Anderson said. **"I want to live on the beach; that would be a miracle."**

Accept a rose, Go hang gliding, Take a ride on an airplane,

I did this.

Kenzie DeBolt '13

Sitting in her room, senior Kenzie DeBolt racks her brain for an artisitic photo idea that would wow her art teacher Dan Weiss.

DeBolt experiments with an old film camera. On a whim, she finally decides to plop down a pair of her worn out, black, high top Converse on her bathroom floor. Using her bedroom lamp, she casts a spotlight over them to create "contrast."

"You usually look down at shoes," DeBolt said. **"In this you're eye-to-eye with the shoe."**

In the summer of 2011 DeBolt entered three pictures into the Iowa State Fair, photo contest not expecting much from it. Then, she received the letter. One of her pictures would be displayed at the fair.

A second letter arrived later, stating she earned second place in the ' Still Life category, and as an added bonus she received $50 in prize money.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do, but after winning an award for it I thought, 'well hey, maybe I can do something with this,'" DeBolt said.

In preparation for a possible career in photography, DeBolt has taken every photgraphy class the high school provides. She works in Weiss' classroom at least three periods a day.

"My mom was surprised (about a career in photography)," Debolt said. **"I think that she was fine with it before like, 'oh yeah it's a good hobby' but now she understands that this is what I want to do."**

Nick Young '15

Sophomore Nick Young sat with a tiger on his lap, a bottle in its mouth. "Oh, god! Its claws are going into me, it's so sharp," Young said.

Young, 15 at the time, and his family had been touring through Malaysia, Korea, and Thailand. Their tours led them through the jungle on elephants and to the market on the boats in the river. He, his brother, dad and uncle also visited a crocodile zoo where they got the rare chance to meet a tiger.

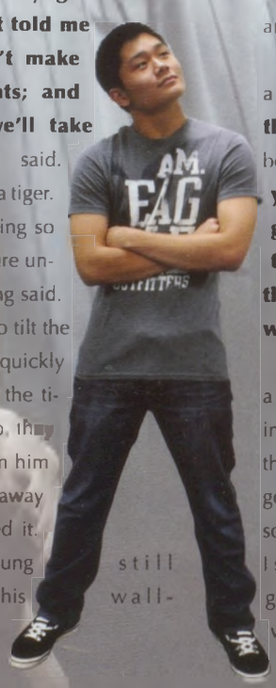
"We were walking outside, and we see this little open booth, and it had monkeys and tigers," Young said. **"You could pay to take a picture with them, and we were like 'Oh, let's do it!'"**

The zookeepers never told him whether the tiger was a girl or a boy, and they did not even tell him its name. But, they did allow him to hold it long enough to make a memory.

"I sat there, and they gave me a bottle of milk, and just told me to 'be calm, and don't make any sudden movements; and feed the tiger and we'll take your picture,'" Young said.

It was not easy holding a tiger. "(The tiger) kept on fidgeting so they could not take a picture until I calmed it down," Young said. The zookeepers told him to tilt the bottle up more, and they quickly snapped a picture. To get the tiger to move off Young's lap, they simply took the bottle from him and lured the little tiger away for the next person to feed it.

To this day, Young still keeps the picture as his wallpaper on his iPhone



Issac Rodenberg '03

Teacher Issac Rodenberg got his revenge last summer. He beat his father in the Guttenberg Open, a golf tournament. The summer before his father beat him. **"I played really well,"** Rodenberg said. **"So it was kind of nice that I won it this year, cause I'm better than him."**

Rodenberg started playing golf with family while growing up. "My dad was a teacher, so In the summers his form of 'babysitting' was taking us to the golf course," Rodenberg said. **"I just got good at it. It was what I did the best and just enjoyed it."**

The Guttenburg Open was also Rodenberg's favorite win because it had more of a challenge than previous tournaments. "I had to beat some good golfers. I've won other golf tournaments where basically I'm the best guy there and I just need to show up and not screw up. This one I had to actually go out and win."

Rodenberg believes golf requires a positive mentality. **"I always think I'm going to win,"** Rodenberg said. **"It's the attitude you have to have if you're going to win. Every golf tournament I enter, I think I have a chance to win."**

Rodenberg wants to win a major amateur tournament in Iowa, and he hopes to win the Elkader Open. "Winning golf tournaments is a big personal accomplishment because I spend a lot of time practicing golf," Rodenberg said. "So when it pays off, that makes me feel good."

Attend Pearl Jam concert, Own family Tsing Tsao, Fly a plane,

Stories by Catherine Roby, Kylie Le Page, Clara Carlson, Megan Bucholtz, Jiahui Huang, Amanda Jensen

Sydney Houston '14

With a skeptical look on his face, DCG graduate Dane Gambrall runs up and down the aisle with a grocery bag over his head. **"We told him we had to collect an air sample so we could send it in to get it tested,"** junior Sydney Houston said.

At the Fareway in Grimes, the old workers play tricks on the new workers. **"Whenever we get a new person we try and get them to do crazy things,"** Houston said.

Since Houston was young she had been looking forward to getting a job. "My aunt, who is 11 years older than me, always had a job when I was growing up," Houston said.

Houston likes her job, especially the fun with new workers. Sophomore Zach Walker experienced the fun. "I had to 'fill up the water fountain' so I got this huge bucket full of water and started to pour it into the water fountain," Walker said. "Right when I started, everyone started laughing. So it's just their way of saying welcome."

Others experienced this kind of welcome. "We once had this kid shake all of the salad dressing to mix all of the ingredients together," Walker said. "So they would just be standing there shaking salad dressing even though it would separate in like 20 minutes."

Houston said she has had tricks attempted on her but has not fallen for them, like her brother freshman Jack Houston who also works there. "They try to play tricks on me because they think I'll fall for them because my brother still does." Houston said.

Connor Smith '15

Looking up endlessly at the Yosemite Falls, Sophomore Connor Smith stands beneath the world's second biggest waterfall. **"I remember staring up there with my eyes wide open for 30 seconds of silence and then I hear clicking of cameras around me,"** Smith said. **"Every single time when I look at it, it just went up and up and up."**

Smith has always had an interest in visiting national parks. "I've been to around 16 national parks," Smith said. "Usually we go to see them two to three at a time."

It has been a family tradition for Smith to go on one huge vacation every year. "It's all thanks to my mom that we have this tradition in my family," Smith said. **"Her parents always took her on many huge vacations every year, so we're just kind of carrying on the family tradition from my mom's side."**

Yosemite Falls was only one of the stops the Smith family made two years ago on their Yosemite National Park visit. In addition, Smith also visited the half dome in the Sierra Nevadas as well as the world's first and second tallest trees.

"I learn a lot of things on these visits," Smith said. " I like seeing nature and I want to see more of it."

Touring national parks in Europe is on the top of Smith's bucket list. "I've been to pretty much all of the national parks in the US," Smith said. "So I want to be able to tour the entire Europe by the age of 70. I will make that the realistic goal."

Kameryn Buttrey '15

A lady that sophomore Kameryn Buttrey did not know placed her and her family into a set. During the shoot she would call out what she wanted Buttrey to do and come over to fix her hair or placement.

"Usually they just want a kid with a mom, but we were chosen because they said we're a good looking family," Buttrey said.

When Buttrey was younger she did not want anything to do with modeling. "I wasn't really a girly girl as a kid," Buttrey said. However, her mother wanted her little sister to model and Lowe's was an opportunity to do so.

Buttrey modeled for the Lowes Home Improvement store catalog with her family in November and was told it would be used in their summer issue.

She was given simple instructions to look happy and act like she was having a good time. **"They also had people there that I didn't even know that I was fake laughing with - it was awkward,"** Buttrey said.

Modeling was different than what Buttery thought it would be.

"It wasn't how I expected it to be, there were so many people there setting it all up," Buttrey said.

The shoot took two hours. "I was tired of smiling and my mouth hurt, especially my jaw," Buttrey said.

The money that Buttrey made, however was hers to keep. "That was the best part," Buttrey said.

After the experience, Buttrey is considering being an onset director for a career.

Adopt a child. Travel to Europe, Get dreadlocks,

Sam Altier

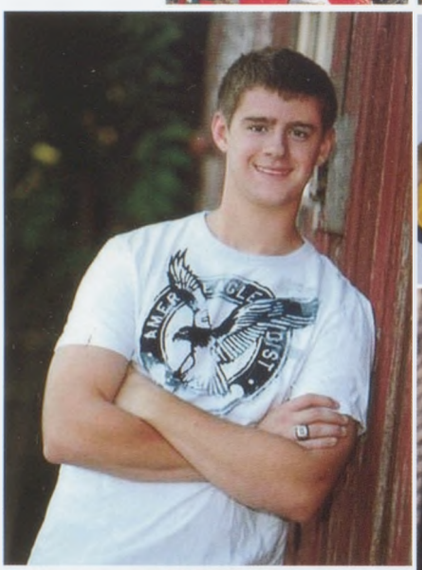
Sam,
Ersh n' gersh! It seems like just yesterday you walked down the street to your first day of Kindergarten. We are very proud of you and can't wait to see what your future holds. This is a very exciting time in your life. Make wise choices, surround yourself with good people and know that we are always there for you. We love you Sam!

-Mom, Dad, Luke, Thomas & Lauren

Andy Bevis

You did it! We are so very proud of you. You bring much joy to our lives.
We wish you much success in wherever life's journey takes you.
All our love,

-Mom, Dad



Joe Bormann

Dear Joe Joe,
You were the best Christmas present our family could ask for. Since your TV debut you have brought a brightness to all our lives! You have never met a stranger and that quality will take you far. When you set your mind to something, the possibilities are endless. You are such a strong, confident and wonderful man. When all else fails, use your cat like speed and reflexes.

-Mom, Dad, Luke, & Kelli

Monica Caporelli

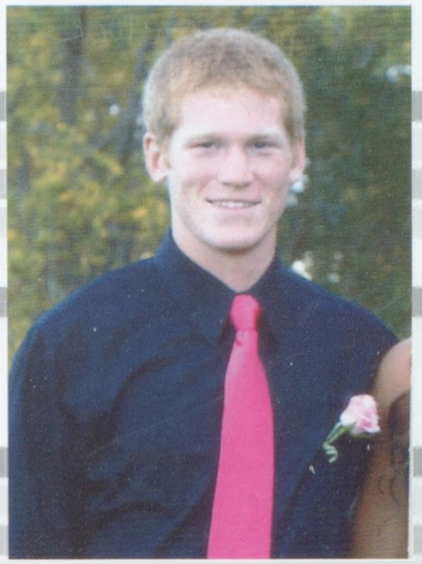
Monica,
As you graduate and leave behind adolescence, we find ourselves reminiscing about the wonderful experience it has been raising, consoling, and guiding you. We hope as you start adult life we've given you the values and lessons needed. We hope you are compassionate, productive, and understanding to society. We wish you happiness and self-satisfaction in your life. We love you and always will be supportive in your future endeavors.

-Mom, Dad

Spencer Clock

I can't believe it has been 18 years since God blessed our family with you. As soon as you arrived we knew our family was complete. You have brought so much fun and laughter to us. We are so proud of you and you truly are a blessing! We love you Spud!

-Mom, Dad, Amber, & Nathan



Erin Conlan

Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction
faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Love you much!

-Mom, Dad, & Morgan

Adrienne Cooper

Adrienne,
Eighteen years ago you danced into our lives and took your place in our hearts. The time has come now for you to take your place in the world, so remember to follow your heart and carry ours with you always.
All our love,

-Mom, Dad, Jamey, Grant, Nick, and Families

Paige Cramer

Paige,
We are grateful for your achievements in school, but that will never match the joy you have brought to us through what is inside of you. You have always been a kind and compassionate daughter. You are caring, respectful, considerate and good-natured. These are the characteristics we treasure and value in you. We are so proud to call you our daughter and you are such a blessing to us.
We love you!

-Mom & Dad

Carly Crist

Carly,

We are so proud of who you are and all that you have accomplished. Can't wait to see all of the great things that are to come at ISU and beyond!

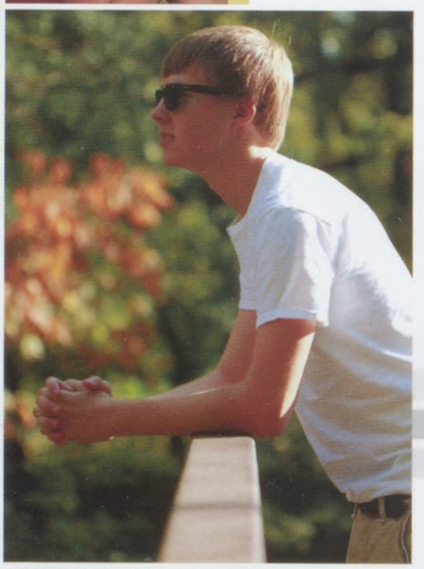
Love,

-Mom & Dad

Kayla Dings

You have given us so many wonderful memories over the years. Especially when you got up and sang the song you wrote for us at your chorus concert! Wow! Your funny, outgoing, kind and genuine personality will take you far in this world. You have always been wise beyond your years. You have compassion and that will make you a success in whatever you decide to do in this life. Grandpa & Grandma said they wanted to be here to see you graduate. I know they are proud of you and bragging to all of their friends in heaven. You are one special lady! P.S.- Your brother wants your room...

-Mom, Dad



Ben Dygert

Congratulations, Ben! We are very proud of you! Thank you for being a wonderful son and special big brother. You have a bright future, son! We love you!

-Mom & Dad

Mark Gee

From a boy to a man.
From a learner to a doer.
From Johnston to the World.

Love,

-Mom, Dad

Sindhu Gollapudi

I can't believe it has been 18 years! Way to go sweetie!! It was just a few days back that you were learning from me and now I have begun to learn from you. There was never a dull moment with you. Way to go and hopefully pretty soon I will be seeing you as a college grad!

Best of luck

-Mom, Dad, & Simran

Sarah Gunhus

Congratulations Sarah! We are so proud of you. It has been a joy to see you become the smart, funny, confident beautiful young woman you are today. Stay true to yourself and your dreams and life will take you far. No matter where you go or what you do, we will always love and support you.

Love,

-Mom, Dad, & Andrew

Olivia Guns

Olivia, congratulations. You make us proud!

-Mom, & Dad

Marissa Hagerla

Marissa,

What fun it has been to be a part of your journey to adulthood. You have a wonderful sense of humor (meow) and you face adversity with such grace. Your future will be exciting because you are adventurous and confident in what you want in life. Always stay true to yourself and you will live your dreams. We have been so blessed to have you in our lives.

Love,

-Mom, Dad, & Bradley

Casey Halder

Congratulations to our sweet boy who's grown into a wonderful young man. We are so proud of the way you've lived your life-showing genuine concern for others, your ability to make others smile, knowing who you are, what you want in life...those are traits that will make you successful always. We know your dreams will be accomplished and we will always be here to support you. We love you

-Mom, Dad & Halder

Amelia Hammond

Amelia, you've always been "in tune" to your God-given talents! We know you'll live life to its fullest "measure". Work hard as you "play."
We love you,

-Mom, Dad & Greta

Ryan Harlow

We are so proud of you. You are a kind, caring person who is a good friend to many. You will be a success in whatever you choose to do. Our wish for you is to be happy and enjoy the next chapter in your life! Your family is always here for you. Good luck!

-Mom, Dad, Eric & Billy

Will Hyde

Your high school years have gone by fast, but watching you grow has been a real blast. We're proud of you son, each and every day. Keep on doing good and have fun the Will Hyde way!.

-Mom, Dad

Delany Idleman

Delany,

We are blessed by your beauty inside and out.

Love you,

-Mom, Dad, Griffin & Grant

Kayla Jansen

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us." --Ralph Waldo Emerson

You are an amazing person, Kayla. Within you lies music, faith, compassion, independence, humor and strength. We are very proud of you, and our love for you is infinite.

Always and forever,

-Mom, Dad & Brady

Chase Kramer

Chase,

We are so proud of you and the young man you have become. We admire your confidence, integrity, hard work and determination, which you balance well with your fun-loving adventurous side. Continue to be true to your faith and beliefs and use your gifts and talents to the fullest. We look forward to the accomplishments that lie ahead for you. We love you and will always support you in your endeavors.

Love,

-Mom, Dad, Alex & Drake

Hailey Kromminga

Hailey,

Congratulations on all of your achievements! We are so proud of you! We've watched you grow from a sweet little girl to a beautiful, smart, talented young lady. We know you have a bright future ahead of you and we are excited to see what God has in store for you as you continue to trust Him to guide your life.

Lots of love,

-Mom, Dad & Ross

Bonnie Le Page

Bonnie, hard to believe you've come so far, moved so many times, and faced so many obstacles. You have risen above it all to become the beautiful young woman you are, with many talents, skills, and a big heart. Work hard, play hard, never be afraid to try, never give up, and hold fast to the One who made you. We love you always.

-Mom, Dad & Kylie

Blake Lipinski

Blake
It has been an amazing road watching you grow into a young man. We are very lucky to have such a wonderful son and brother as you. We wish you all the luck in your future. Although you will be attending ISU, we all know in our hearts that you are cheering for Michigan every day!

Go Blue!
Love Always,

-Mom, Dad & Bryce

Leanna McAllister

Leanna,
We are so very proud of you. It has been a privilege to watch you grow from your earliest days into an accomplished, wonderful young woman. We are certain that even greater things are in your future.

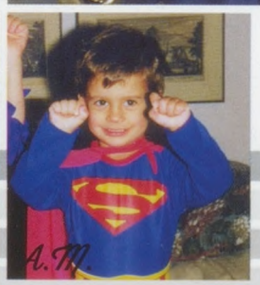
Love always,

-Mom & Dad

Andrew McKeighan

In the blink of an eye, you've grown from a sweet little boy into a wonderful young man whom we are blessed to call our son. We hope you remember and live by these rules: always follow your dreams, be brave, take risks, laugh often, love deeply, stay close to your family and friends, believe in yourself and trust in GOD. Remember that we love you always and forever.
Love,

-Mom, Dad



Misty Miller

Misty Sue-
We are so very proud of the young woman you've become! You are beautiful, smart, funny and caring. You make a great role model for your nieces and they will always look up to you. You have always been a star to us, shine bright like a diamond.
Love,

-Olivia, Michael, Kira & Camryn

Joscelyn Miner

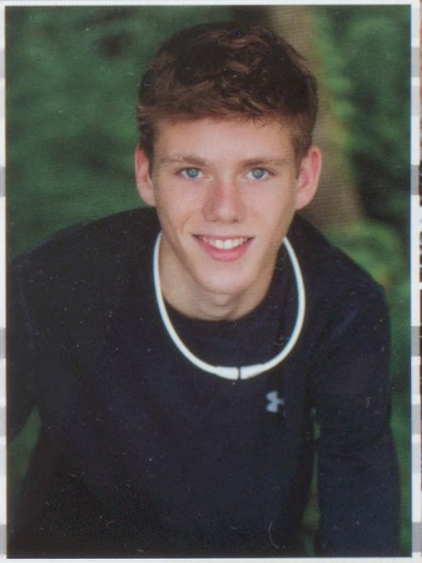
Joscelyn ~those big blue angel eyes have brought many smiles and love to our Miner home. You are an amazing young woman and we are proud of your talents and accomplishments. Your positive attitude, kind heart, strong work ethic, and contagious smile will pave the way to endless dreams! We love you to the moon and back and will support you in all your new endeavors! We wish you the best of luck!

-Mom, Dad, Gwynna & Maggie

Wes Monroe

Wes,
Congratulations on reaching this milestone in your life. We are looking forward to seeing what the next stage of your life brings. You are bright, witty and a joy to be around. We will miss your sense of humor, your wonderful smile and your steady stream of friends that fills our house and our hearts. You are one of a kind and you are loved!

-Mom, Dad & Scott



Connor & Brien

Connor,
Congratulations! We are proud of you and the young man you've become. Our happy-go-lucky little boy with bright blue eyes and a big smile grew into a handsome, intelligent, hardworking young man with a terrific sense of humor. As you move into the next chapter of your life, be confident, dream big and work hard to make your dreams come true. Love,

-Mom & Dad

Meghan Osterhout

Meghan, you have brightened my life more than you will ever know. Your personality is as big and loving as your heart. I have no doubts you will conquer all that you strive to accomplish in this life. I love you! You are my original pooh bear!

-Mom & Dad

Bailey Peterson

Congratulations, Bailey! We are so proud of the wonderful young lady you have become. It's hard to believe it's time for you to graduate and move on to the next phase of your life. Good luck at Iowa State.
Love you,

-Mom & Dad

Jack Pollack

Zack,
I can't believe how fast time has gone by. You have grown into such an amazing young man. You make me VERY proud in every way. I wish you all the success in your future. Always know there may be mountains to climb to get what you want but all it takes is one foot in front of the other. I know you can do it! I love you so much.

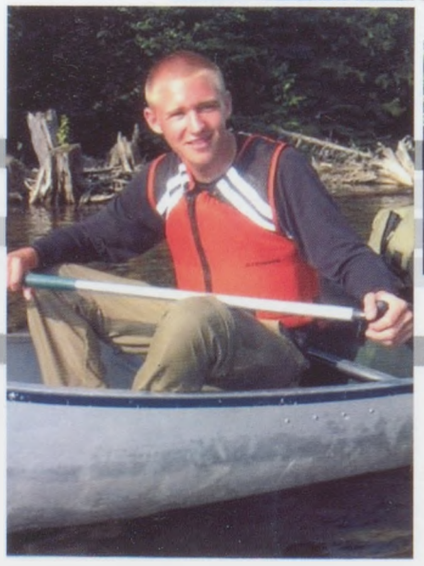
-Mom

Jacob Randall

Jacob,

When you were young, you were a positive, cheerful little boy who enjoyed adventure and loved new experiences. Well, you are still that same person- just bigger! Enjoy your years at college, and remember that we are always here for you and always love you.

-Mom, Dad, Cameron, Trey & Marissa



Sanna Rasmussen

Your future is bright! Remember to keep on the Sunnyside of Life.
Love

-Mom, Dad, Karl & Maren

Kelly Ridenour

Promise me you'll always remember: You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." — A.A. Milne
Kelly, We are so proud of you! We can't wait to see what the future holds for you.
Love,

-Mom, Dad, & Joey

Brandon Ruggieri

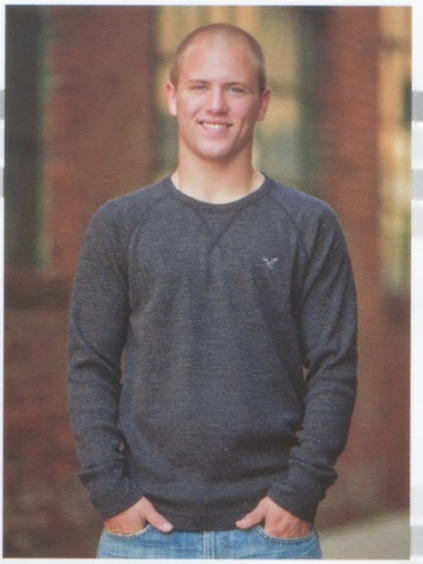
Brandon,
It is hard to believe this day is already here and we know you treasure your high school memories. Memories filled with longtime friends, lessons learned, sports team challenges and triumphs, summers spent on the lake and favorite family travels. We thank you for the laughter and the fun times! As you begin the next chapter in your life, remember that you can accomplish anything you set your mind to. We love you and are so proud to be your family!

-Mom, Dad, Savannah, Boyd & Rachael

Regan Sanford

Regan,
We can't believe how fast the years have passed. You have grown into such a wonderful young man, hardworking, funny, sensitive and most of all committed. Remember, when you experience struggles they will give you strength. Have faith in your convictions. We have all the faith in the world that you will succeed in your future goals. We are so proud of you, in so many ways, and for so many things.
All our love,

-Mom & Dad



Sam Schade

Sam,
Not only are we are very proud of your academic and athletic accomplishments, but we are proud of how you have grown as a person and we look forward to seeing you continue to grow as you start the next phase of your life at college.

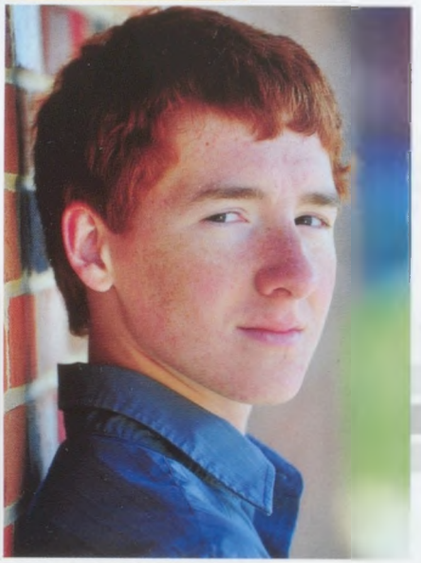
Love,

-Mom, Dad & Sarah

Andrew Schwaderer

Andrew,
We're so proud of you! You've grown into a wonderful young man with tremendous leadership qualities. We know you'll push yourself and strive for greatness - just don't be discouraged by set-backs along the way. Work hard, but take time to enjoy life. Never forget that God will always be there for you - keep your faith strong and His help will lead you through a fulfilling life filled with happiness! Even though you were the second born, you were always tied for first to us! We Love you!

-Mom, Dad, Tommy, Tucker, Bonnee & Milky Way



Michael Schwaderer

Michael,
We're so proud of you! Through the years you've brought so much joy and life to our family. You've worked hard & accomplished much - your future is so bright! Work hard, find something you love doing, be creative and do it to the fullest. You're capable of tremendous things! Never be afraid of failure and always let God guide your path - he will never lead you astray! Thanks you for letting us be so involved and being such a wonderful son! We Love you!

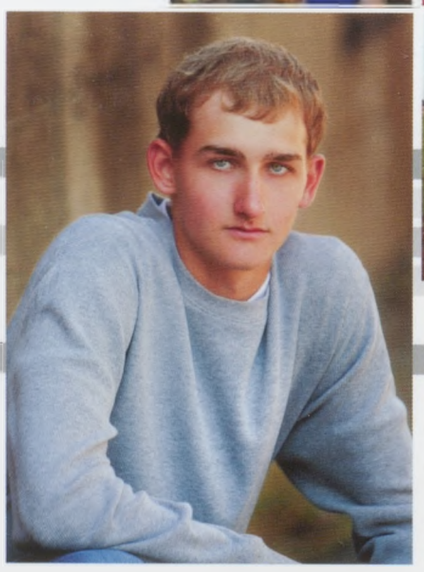
-Mom, Dad, Tommy, Tucker, Bonnee & Milky Way

Grant Smith

Grant,
Be confident and pursue your dreams. Seek God in all you do. We believe in you, and are so very proud of you!!
"Resolve never to quit, never to give up, no matter what the situation". Jack Nicklaus

Love,

-Mom, Dad & Nick



Hannah Soyer

You AMAZE us with your unselfish efforts to help others and make their life more complete. The world needs your determination, perseverance and tenacity! You always expect the truth and nothing less. And you thread your humor through it all! Keep the world laughing because there's "No Day But Today." And most important . . . Be A Good Monkey!
We love you,

-Mom & Dad

Stephanie Stone

Steph, I am writing this two days before your 18th birthday. Boy has the time gone fast! It was just yesterday that you were crying to me how you will never be able to learn your spelling words. Well you did and will continue to jump the hurdles in your life. Nothing is too big if you put your mind to it.

Love,

-Mom, Dad, James & Buster

Christopher Timmerman

Dear Christopher,

We are so proud of you and the amazing young man you've become. We look forward to watching you grow and accomplish new things in the next exciting stage of your life. Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you've imagined. Work hard to make your dreams come true. We love you very much and pray for nothing but the best for you always.

Love,

-Mom, Dad & Brandon

Anna Twickler

Anna,
We love you very much and are so very proud of the wonderful young woman you have become. Never forget your high school years and the friends you have made and take full advantage of the next chapter of your life. Remember to live each day to the fullest, love deeply for those you cherish and laugh each day, like you do already. We will always be here for you every step of the way. You have so much to offer the world and you make it a better place. All of our love!

-Mom & Dad

Lauren Ulm

To our Lauren,

Keep your patient attitude, precious smile and your kind heart, they will take you far. May your journey be filled with your best dreams and know that we love you just the way you are.

With all our love,

-Mom, Dad, Leslie, Loyal & Kitties

Spencer Vines

Spencer,
We are very proud of you. We have loved every minute of watching you grow up into a beautiful young woman. You are a wonderful daughter, sister and friend. We know that you will be successful in anything you choose to do.

Love XXOO

-Mom, Dad, Taylor & Jackson

Hannah J. White

We can't know exactly where life will take you, but we do know that your compassion for everyone you meet, your calm confidence to take on challenges, and your determination to see a task through will lead you to a life filled with success as you choose to define it. We are so proud of how you have handled adversity in your life and even more proud to watch you take this next step in your life. Believe that God will lead you to the places where you should be and your life will always have meaning and purpose. Oh, and we appreciate your patience and understanding for those times when we didn't quite get the parenting thing right!

-Mom & Dad

Shane Wiley

Our hearts are so proud of you! You are a caring person with a great sense of humor and a quiet strength. Football, basketball, choir, cross country, track, show choir, swimming, knee-boarding, and scouting – you have enjoyed many activities. Congratulations on earning Eagle Scout-a big accomplishment!
Believe in yourself as much as we believe in you.
Work hard, play hard and have fun!
Continue your great journey!

-Mom & Dad

Breanna Williams

Breanna,

We can't believe it's time for our little BMW to graduate! It seems like once you started kindergarten the years flew right on by! You have become a beautiful, intelligent, kind-hearted young woman, and we are proud to call you our daughter! Live life to the fullest and follow your dreams. We will always be here for you.

Love,

-Mom, Dad & Steven

Blake Wilson

Blake,

There's something people like about a pickup man.
Go get'em country boy!

Love

-Mom, Dad & Ben

Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.

-Steve Jobs

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REFERENCE

Within this section support ads as well as the index are found. This yearbook would not have been possible without the support of our community and the many businesses tied to the school. A big thank you is in order to all companies listed. The index includes group shots of all the clubs, activities, and sports from the year as well as mods of information found to be interesting to us as we traveled through high school. Each yearbook staff memeber designed and created a mod filled with photos, ideas, and information.

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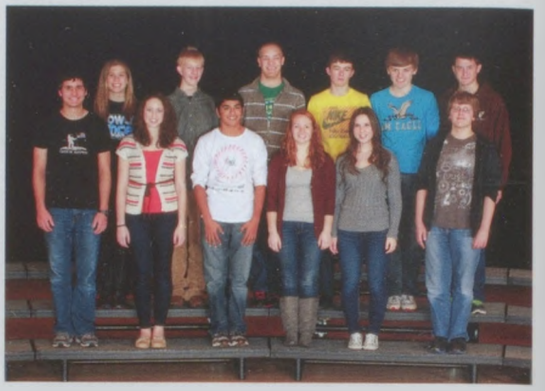
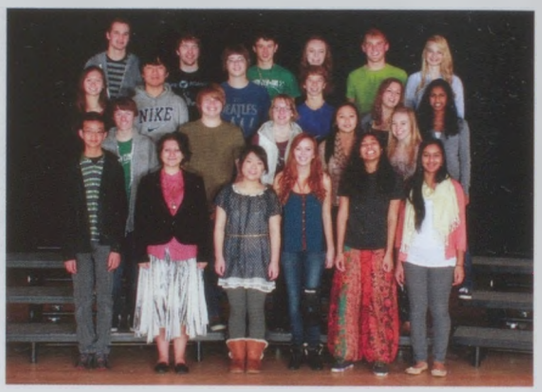
1-1 iPad Student Initiative



R1: Andrew McKeighan, Jacqueline Gurney, Jordan Boge, Courtney Norelius, Shelby Costello, Daniel Hoddenbagh R2: Carly Crist, Jason Koenigsberg, Nate Eggleston, Chris Kline, Danny Corbin, Jordan Hess. Photo by John Jentsch.

Academic Decathalon



R1: Ethan Niu, Abby Abeyta-Martin, Jiahui Huang, Breanna Williams, Kirpal Dhugga, Fatiha Iqbal R2: Levi Clark, Jack Dolde, Erin Selinger, Karen, Emily Van Wiel R3: Shuda Jarboe, Daniel Xu, Austin Busch, Tyler Fenton, Lindsay Soards, Ruchi Shekar R4: Joe Buising, John Finn, Josh Boeschen, Abby Dockum, Riley Deutsch, Alise Williams. Photo by John Jentsch.

Anime Club

R1: Tyler Benson, Aaron Brault, Ariel Needham, Kaitlyn Hammer, Lauren Quinn, Hannah Loiler, Kaity Knisley R2: Elizabeth Hobbs, Elric Ekstrand, Elsie Wunn, Alex Langenberger, Francisco Mejia, Chloe Keeney. Photo by John Jentsch.

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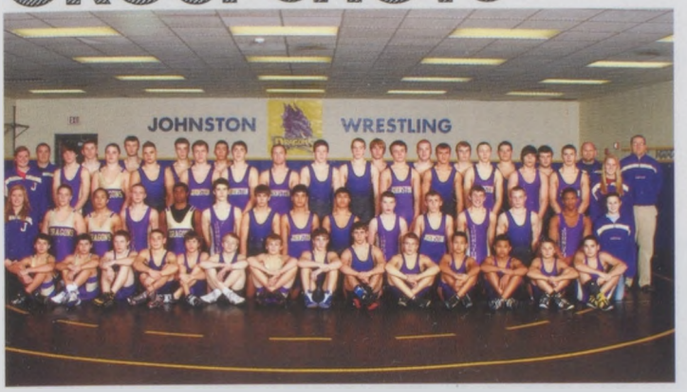

Wrestling

R1: Alec Ksiazek, Ethan Ksiazek, Reese Stahlbaum, Austin Garcia, Blake Anderson, Henry Pohlmeyer, Shane Vaughan, Travis Price, Travis Kain, Brady Harper, Riley Tuon, Alix Ngo, Ben Tack, Christian Beal R2: Clare Farrell, Henry Westemeyer, Jordan Walley, Jake Randall, Jordan Weddington, Jeffrey Guttin, Alec McCombs, Duc To, Daven Ngo, Jonah Gehrke, Colton Feeley, James McGowan, Caleb Spencer, James McDermott, Bailey Robinson R3: Katy Clay, Tristan Berg, Jacob Cooper, Boris Petrusic, Nate Standish, Tyler Steuber, Sam Schade, Zack Robinson, Logan Walkup, Drew Singbush, Anthony Piagentini, Rafael Gilmanov, Austin McFall, Noah Beebe, Jordan Clausson R4: Steve Price, Nathan Hibbs, Jon Dolan, Ben Wilson, Andrew Ballesteros, Dakota Jackson, Conner Jacobsen, Clayton Holcomb, Tom Dusen, Bradford Nielsen, Robert Roethler, Aaron Tecklenburg.
Photo by Motorsports Photography.

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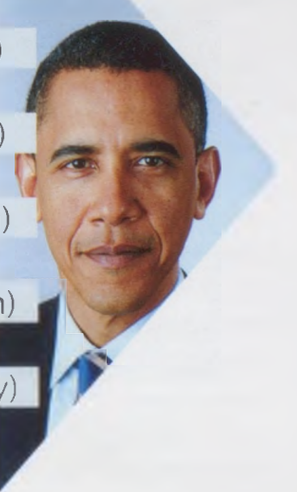
2012 Presidential Election Nominees

- Barack Obama (Democrat)
- Mitt Romney (Republican)
- Gary Johnson (Libertarian)
- Jill Stein (Green)
- Virgil Goode (Constitution)
- Rocky Anderson (Liberty)



Provided by U.S Gov

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DRAGON TV

Dragon TV has been very good this 2012-2013 year. Every Wednesday in each advisory students watched a new episode. From comedy to music to manners to sports updates to pick up lines there was a story for everyone. Below are the top segments that aired on Dragon TV this year.

1 S-MOS & T-HOFF'S Raps:

What was it?: Seniors Spencer Mosure and Brock Hoffman addressed many issues and topics floating around JHS with a cleaver rap written by themselves and a music video aired on DTV

Best Rap: PDA Rap

2 PRO VS JOE with Matt & Tyler:

What was it?: Seniors Tyler Smaha and Matt Guyer (the Joes) went up against the best of each sport. From volleyball to swimming to dance they covered it all.

Best face off: Basketball against Jay Knuth and Luke Jorgenson

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Archery

R1: Cole LaFollette, Harrison Kruse, Taylor Hall, Kate Allender, Elizabeth Leffler, Kayla Dings, Emily Moe, Alex McCune, Bonnie Le Page, Adam Richman, Josh Untrauer, Claire Timmerman, Alexander Ritchie, Lauren Quinn R2: Brandon Ferin. Caitlin Thede. Brianna Erickson. Kennedy Graeser, Brooke Barrett, Natalie Larimer, Jennifer Meyer, Will Krone, Addy Evans, Justin Kain, Austin Kain, Dennis Xu, Laura Smalley, Casey Briere R3: Johnathan Shepard, Kylie Le Page, Mitch Corbin, Alex Langenberger, Josh Hasstedt, Andy Else, Joe Sprunger, Brandon Gabbert, Tyler Fenton, Sanjay Koduvalli, Joe Dailey R4: Chandler Bakken, Sydney Sanchez, Sarah Birkett, Andrew Evans, Noah Wheeler, Mike Thiel, Hannah Wiles, Delany Idleman, Olivia Guns.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Art Trip

R1: Olivia Jenkins, Dominique Gibson, Lizzie Alonzo, Kara Ganzer, Trent Howard, Haley Hoss, Claire Timmerman R2: Daniel Weiss, Amber Hodapp, Caitlin Thede, Andrew Else, Kaitlyn Bevis, Audrey Knoellenberg, Sarah Kromminga, Kaitlyn Hammer, Elsie Wunn R3: Jason Koenigsberg, Kate Allender, Rylee Thompson, Alex Ritchie.
Photo by Ethan Marshall.

JV Baseball

R1: Seth Hammer, Will Jackson, Tyler Steuber, Logan Ryan, Zach Rains, Taylor Gwennap, Alex Rice R2: Zach Brandt, Connor White, Monte Friestad, Joe McGinn, Troy Daly, Alex Burns, Alex Canny, Nick Whittaker, Matt Shaver.
Photo by Caleb Jamin Studios.

GROUPSHOTS

Book Club

R1: Audrey Ide, Elizabeth Crowley, Amber Hodapp, Kayla Dings, Lauren Quinn R2: Elsie Wunn, Ariel Needham, Hannah Loiler, Jane Behrens.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Cheerleading Wrestling

R1: Tori Pearson, Katelyn Elliot R2: Lizzie Daly, Kaylee Stubbs, Lori Gentile.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Cheerleading Winter Bubbles

Mikayla Foster, Katarina Moore, Libby Bengston, Cathy Nguyen, Fredrika Andreasson, Sara Stoutenberg.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Cheerleading Varsity Football

R1: Carly Crist, Katie Giles, Sarah Lewis, Monica Lindsey, Reid Lefler, Addie Cooper, Mackinzie Myers R2: Kayla George, Katherine Bischof Gillete, Joscey Miner, Lauren Kimble, Karly Palmer, Anna Twickler, Cynthia Tice, Lexi Shafer R3: Natalie Parker, Emily Stevens, Katy Olsen, Kelsey Kramer, Allyse Shoeman, Brooke Stoll, Cassidy Dean, Meghan Hart.
Photo by Mitch Stubbs.

Cheerleading Winter Poms of Glory

R1: Emily Van Wiel, Kelsey Kramer, Aly Bowen R2: Michaela Davis, Nikia Pope, Betsy Coy.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Chearleading Winter Poms of Glory

R1: Riley Graham, Kaitlin Pranger, Sara Nezirevic, Ashley Dixson, Addison Bolles, Stephanie Graham, Andjela Mandic, Hailey Cooper R2: Rachel Siedenberg, Lizzie Daly, Nikki Spear, Maddie MacGregor, Shelby Haynes, Nejra Cikotic, Kaylee Stubbs R3: Kayla George, Emily Van Wiel, Casey Bockenstedt, Cora Weatherford, Carlyn Waetke, Sara Stoutenberg, Lexi Shafer.
Photo by Mitch Stubbs.

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Whats Your App

"It's easier to post photos and keep up with what's going on."
- Brennen Woods '13
"It's really entertaining to watch videos of other people and you can make hilarious videos."
- Tyler Smaha '13
NETFLIX
"I like using this app to watch 24 and my favorite movie, Coach Carter."
- Jordan Kleinschmidt '14
"Wanelo makes it a lot easier to shop and look at a variety of things."
- Bri Handel '14

Instagram
Filter and post your pictures.

Vine
Take clips of video and post them as one.

Netflix
Watch your favorite TV shows or movies easily.

Wanelo
Search for clothes, accessories, and other cool gadgets

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What Makes You Different?

"I'm really involved with fitness and healthy eating. I changed my lifestyle and fitness and I was able to lose 20 pounds and I even helped my family eat better." - *Sam Friesner '15*

"School is my number one priority, but at the same time I find time to go to concerts and shows. I have holes in my face, like piercings, and I live 20 minutes away." - *Jake Shore '14*

"Two L's in my name are a waste of letters, where are you going to get that L back? The problem is that you won't. You are never getting that L back."
- *Colin Lee '13*

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GROUPSHOTS

R1: Jack Swift, Trey Onder, Drew Woods, Miles Fogelson, Chase Kramer, Sam Schade, Daniel Stroud, Zach Ramsey, Anthony Denny R2: R.J. McGrew, Evan Hammer, Andrew Stiles, Jon Hankins, Matt Zinselmeier, Austin Bowen, Nick Siddens, Shane Chafa, Jeff Pavelka, Cody Brenner, Derek Winchester R3: Michael Barta, Travis Brenner, Nick Stitzell, Alex McCune, Michael Kinning, Trevor McCauley, Nick Nelson, Joe Hawks, Craig Kimble, Andy Bevis, Conner Jacobsen, Adam Richman, Gabe Schultz.
Photo by Caleb Jamin Studios.

Varsity Baseball

R1: Michael Armstrong, Casey Coughlon, Tyler Losen, Sean Thatcher, Casey Roshek, Mark Sauber, Korbin Sesker, Tyler Blackburn. R2: Nick Neumann, Nick Stitzell, Jake Campbell, Joe McGinn, Bobby Sandquist, Josh Heyer,¬¬ Grant Parker, Taylor Heitkamp, Ryan Ostwald R3: Jordan Binnie, Mike Mahanna, Luke Jorgensen, Jay Knuth, Ryan Decker, Grant Riessen, Grant Smith, Regen Siems, Blake Miller, Cully Maahs.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Varsity Boys Basketball

R1: Noy Manyvong, Julia Beswick, Maddie Thilges, Haley Pemble, Haylee Towers, Shayna Stubs R2: Ashley Rogers, Rylee Thompson, Keely Larkin, Kelsey Caffrey, Anna Albaugh, Sara Knee, Emily Lehman, Natalie Coomes, Eric Shafer.
Photo by Caleb Jamin Studios.

JV Girls Basketball

GROUPSHOTS

Sophomore Boys Basketball

R1: Sergio Alaniz, Ben Davis, John Danielson, Luke Pater, Alex White R2: John May, Nick Lee, Jamie Cason, Darius Doswell, Matt Shaver R3: Jack Krone, Reid Sinnett, Jacob Jansen, Regen Siems, Jared Seay.

JV Dance Team

R1: Ciara McCune, Liz Giesselmann, Liz Giesselmann, Emma Killian R2: Allie Bierle, Peyton Koonce, Andrea Schultz, Quinn Stigers, Kiersten Cartwright.
Photo by Tim McConnell.

Color Guard

R1: Kelsey Kramer, Cathy Nguyen, Margaret Standish, Lauren Stephens, Sydney Sanchez, Michaela Davis, Elizabeth Schraeger, Libby Bengston R2: Erica Thacker, Shana Hudson, Sarah Birkett, Katelyn Elliot, Erin Selinger, Maren Bettis, Allison Martin.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Varsity Dance Team

R1: Steph Phillips, Elizabeth Reiher, Darian Huff, Brianna DeMoss, Katie Hermanson R2: Shannon Hartle, Julia Diehl, Jessica Battani, Carly Crist, Bailey Swift, Brooke Stephens R3: Alexandra Reiher, Karli Killian, Jacqueline Gurney, Amanda Judas, Katelyn Lunders.
Photo by Tim McConnell.

Concert Band Percussion

R1: Casey Taylor, Nick Brocka, Ethan Niu R2: Ross Kromminga, Jeremy Williams, Sammy Meyer, Kendall Staley.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Debate

R1: Jiahui Huang, Megan Gibbons, Breanna Williams, Pratyusha Bujimalla R2: Aditi Dinakar, Abby Dockum, Alise Williams, Jordan Boge, Riley Deutsch.
Photo by John Jentsch.

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6.9

Total snowfall in May 2013

May 2 and May 3

On these two days, Des Moines received 6.9 inches of snow: 3.4 inches May 2 and 3.5 May 3. The snow fell from 6:34 a.m. May 2 to 2:48 p.m. May 3 (a continuous 31 hours and 14 minutes). This is the most snow in May since 1907, which was only 1.3 inches. The latest snowfall of 3.5 inches May 3 broke the record previously set on April 29, 1907. Des Moines's average temperature May 3 was 34.5 degrees, tying the record for the coldest May day set previously on May 5, 1944.

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2012 SUMMER OLYMPIC MEDAL COUNT

Students participated in No Shave November during the month. Contests on length and style arose. Girls even participated by not shaving their legs instead. At the end of the month some beards came off while others grew to like the look.

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GROUPSHOTS

Varsity Girls Basketball

R1: Kim Hughes, Shayna Stubbs, Kelsi Larsen, Brenna Robinson, Steph Wilkinson, Erin Yocum, Haylee Towers, Megan Fogelson, Ronnoja Ayers R2: Carrie Larson, Chad Jilek, Sara Knee, Rachel Hinders, Bri Handel, Emily Lehman, Keely Larkin, Ashley Rogers, Eric Shafer.
Photo by Caleb Jamin Studios.

Best Buddies

R1: Donna Petry, Rae Perry, Neiman Clinton, Mikayla Mawhinney, Austin Feinberg, Shelby Hughes, Aaron Harvey, Mason Rump, Michaela Davis, Lucas May, Tori Pearson R2: Kathleen Davis, Callie Coulter, Lizzie Alonzo, Lindsay Soards, Gabby Ledesma, Anna Rasmussen, Tori Calhoun, Danielle Wright, Maleena Lo, Kayla Owens, Katie Regan R3: Devin Lile, Keely Larkin, Paige Grave, Jake Bunner, Cody Faught, Rylee Keith, Taylor Hall, Lydia Sinclair, Nick Hartley, Allyson Veatch R4: Travis Krugler, Mikayla Foster, Harold Obrecht-Wittick, Jordan Ellis, Chloe Keeney, Morgan Coffey, Misty Miller.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Bowling

R1: Levi Clark, Tara Morris, Hayley Signs, Kelli Bormann, Katy Richardson, Rosie McAninch, Loyal Ulm, Lauren Ulm, Grace Smith R2: Blake Smith, Matthew Cooper, Joe Bormann, Drew Uding, Tyler Britton, Jared Erickson, Cody Erickson, Michael Kinning, Luke Davis, Hung Nguyen R3: Caitlin Miller, Erin Selinger, Sam Hazlewood, Anthony Denny, Andrew Evans, Will Hyde, Nick Nelson, Joe Hawks.
Photo by John Jentsch.

GROUPSHOTS

Drama Club

R1: Hannah Wiles, Audrey Kaus, Sanjay Koduvalli, Kate Allender R2: Heath Dannen, Olivia Guns, Paul Honold, Sam Huisinga R3: Mitch Corbin, Delany Idleman.
Photo by John Jentsch.

FCA Leaders

R1: Pete Lashier, Lexi Willie, Payton Thompson, Karsen Kramer, Addy Evans, Trevor McCauley R2: Taylor Heitkamp, Hezekiah Applegate, Josh Borwick, Logan Walkup, Will Krone.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Drumline

R1: Amy Nihart, Bailey Pohlman, AJ Naanep, Jeremy Williams, Kendall Staley R2: Riley Deutsch, Joe Seda, Ross Kromminga, Jon Caracci.
Photo by John Jentsch.

FCCLA

R1: Makayla Cox, Alize Olson, Rylee Keith, Cynthia Tice, Fatiha Iqbal R2: Kathy Comstock, Lizzie Alonzo, Bailey Lane, Ana Duarte, Kelly Ridenour, Erin Conlan, Simran Aulakh.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Enviornmental Club

R1: Margaret Standish, Courtney Norelius, Laura Smalley, Kirpal Dhugga, Lauren Stephens, Fatiha Iqbal R2: Marcus Miller, Sarah Eikenberry, Brian Brass, Katrina Fey, Kim Hughes R3: Jack Dolde, Nathan Ferguson, David Rice, Jasmina Amidzic, Brooke Barrett R4: Elliot Suiter, Rachel Li, Shana Hudson, Nate Eggleston, Ethan Babcock, Katie Heglin, Nick Saluri.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Fencing

Alexander Ritchie, Sanjay Koduvalli, Scott Magnani.
Photo by John Jentsch.

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The**Almost**Photos

Photos that could have been great

Bad Timing

photo by Gabby Ledesma

Sophomore Eisha Nathwani aims to hit the approaching tennis ball. The Johnston Invitational, held on March 6, was against several teams. The girl's came out with second place at this meet, and overall a winning record.

Blurry

photo by Kelsey Acheson

Sophomore Gabby Ledesma and Senior Bonnie Le Page photograph the trees and wildlife at the Alamo exhibit. They, along with other journalism students, were in San Antonio for the National Journalism Convention.

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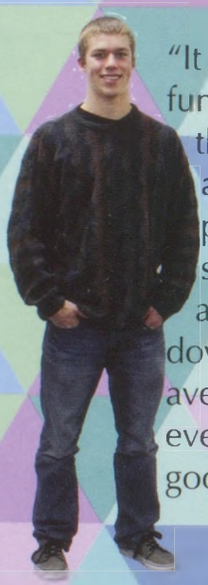
Poppin' Tags

Why They Love Thrift Shops



"It is never really fun when you walk through the halls and see ten other people wearing the same shirt as you and that's kinda the down side to your average clothing store even if they have good style."

-Noah Beebe '14

"When you walk into a thrift shop it's like opening a treasure chest. You find all sorts of cool stuff. I wear some stuff out of pure humor because it's so ridiculous and I'm all for putting a smile on someone's face because of three decade old sweater."

-Konnor Gifford '14

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Chamber Choir

R1: Meredith Toebben, Margaret Standish, Max Culbert, Michael Schwaderer, Andrew Schwaderer, Jeremy Caracci, Karsen Kramer, Emily Scott, Melia Black R2: Dani Lorenz, Amy Nihart, Samantha Long, Jacob Gehrke, Alex Kaptain, Kyler Coburn, Cameron DeMoss, Sanna Rasmussen, Julia Ratekin, Victoria Trost, Amelia Hammond R3: Kenzie Johnson, Katie Giles, Jeff Carley, Drew Cubit, Jon Caracci, Josh Boeschen, Tim Zuo, Craig O'Keefe, Emma Dickinson, Lydia Sinclair R4: Olivia Guns, Hailey Krominga, Laura Smalley, Connor Ward, Luke McDermott, Josh Dell, Joe Seda, Mitch Corbin, Erik Rasmussen, Kyla Grau.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Concert Band Brass

R1: Oliver Rutherford, Katie Heglin, Margaret Standish, Katarina Moore, Michaela Davis, Sarah Eikenberry, Courtney Norelius, Katherine Crowley, Kyle Chapman, Josh Hjelmaas R2: Allison Clark, Henry Pohlmeyer, Tyler Davis, Jason Koenigsberg, Brigette Biley, Jack Dolde, Cooper Maahs, Jacob Jansen, Alex White, Josiah Mielke, Sanjay Koduvalli R3: Sam Hazlewood, Amanda Thamke, Erin Conlan, Jacob Orr, Ryan Evans, Casey Briere, Kate Minney, Senad Besic, John Finn, Cooper Wilde, Nathan Ferguson, Ammar Pasalic, Chandler Bakken, Nate Eggleston.

Concert Band Woodwinds

R1: Aaron Brault, Emma Thayer, Jennifer Meyer, Briana Borup, Kelsey Kramer, Cathy Nguyen, Hailey Kromminga, Michelle Hall, Elizabeth Hobbs, Allison Martin, Eva Smith, Katelyn Elliot R2: Leon Sun, Elric Ekstrand, Sarah Birkett, Sydney Sanchez, Anna Albaugh, Kelly Cherrier, Katy Clay, Zea Zhu, Kirpal Dhugga, Callie Alvarez, Maren Bettis, Nick Saluri, Jasmina Amidzic R3: Katie Landy, Michael Schwaderer, Connor White, Joe Dailey, Kara Garside, Cole Jewell, Kayla Jansen, Paige Vaden, Kaitlyn Nagel, Isaac Ochoa, James Beasley, Bradley Cherrier.

GROUPSHOTS

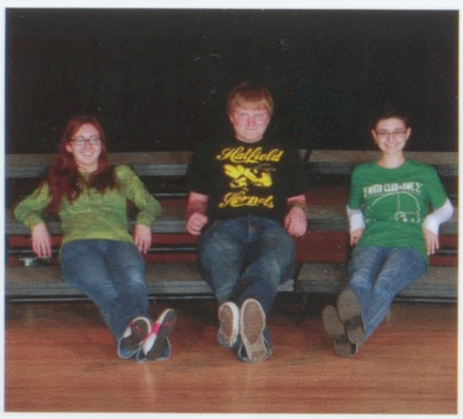
Film Club

R1: Josh Dell, Sydney Luu, Tomas Garduno, Audrey Ide R2: Josh Ward, Madi Case, Evan Trainer, Walker Williams R3: Josh Fritz, Delany Idleman, Rachel Eggleston, Simon Pendleton R4: Triston Nearmyer, Sam Huising, Smith Kraai, Cooper Maahs.

History Day

R1: Andrew Boge, Aditi Dinakar, Zea Zhu, Jiahui Huang, Pratyusha Bujimalla, Jordan Boge R2: Kara Garside, Abby Dockum, Natalie Vander Ploeg, Megan Gibbons.
Photo by John Jentsch.

French Club



Katie Breeden, Brian Brass, Lexi Williams.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Jazz Band

R1: Sarah Eikenberry, Katie Breeden, Connor Smith, Katarina Moore, Henry Pohlmeyer R2: Casey Taylor, Amanda Thamke, Shane Burgess, Nick Saluri, Bradley Cherrier R3: Isaac Ochoa, Cooper Maahs, Jack Dolde, Nathan Ferguson, Brigette Biley, Sam Hazlewood.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Varsity Girls Golf

R1: Megan Fogelson, Kelli Bormann, Briana Borup R2: Allison Kretsinger, Hannah Tetmeyer, Rachel Walljasper, Kennedy Kramer R3: Rosie McAninch, Taylor Anthony, Courtney Nyberg, Brenna Robinson, Sanna Rasmussen, Olivia Doherty.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Jazz Ensemble

R1: Riley Deutsch, Ross Kromminga, Joe Seda, Leon Sun, Chandler Bakken R2: Emma Dickinson, Joe Dailey, Cole Jewell, Michael Schwaderer, Ethan Babcock, Zach Lamberty R3: Brian Brass, Ryan Evans, Andrew Boge, Casey Briere R4: Ammar Pasalic, Josh Hjelmaas, Kyle Chapman, Jason Koenigsberg.
Photo by John Jentsch.

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ONLINE PIRACY: the facts

70% of online users find nothing wrong with piracy

67% of digital piracy sites are hosted in North America and Western Europe

22% of all global internet band-width is used for online piracy

92% of files available for download on Cyberlockers sites (Rapidshare, Megaupload, etc.) are copyrighted

Jordan Thede

Facebook is better than twitter because... You can post albums, send messages, and stay in touch with your friends and family. It's way more personal and you don't have a tiny character limit!

Johnston '14 Friends Post

VS

Twitter is the best social network because... It makes people say whatever's on their mind in 140 characters. Makes things interesting.

about 1 hour ago via web

emilymoe2
Emily Moe '13

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2013 Academy Awards Best Picture Nominees

- Amour
- Argo
- Les Misérables
- Life of Pi
- Django Unchained
- Zero Dark Thirty
- Silver Linings Playbook
- Beasts of the Southern Wild
- Lincoln

Provided by Antoine Taveneaux

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Concert Choir

R1: Austin Probst, Daniel Hoddenbagh, Jacob Murray, Rory Coniconde, Troy Ikeda, Nate Grimes R2: Ryan Kramme, Jordan Nicolet, Nate Standish, Erik Rhodes, Luke Stevens, Drew Grill, Mark Johnson, Andrew Mills, Jake Dalbey, Tyler Davis, Shane Wiley, John Norris R3: Jake Emblen, Brooke Stephens, Katie Hermanson, Elizabeth Schraeger, Cassidy Dean, Sarah Lewis, Abby Abeyta-Martin, Reid Lefler, Courtney Norelius, Mikayla Seiler, Audrey Kaus, Jacqueline Gurney, Brianna DeMoss, Krister Anderson, Brandon Thrane R3: Will Krone, Katie Landy, Monica Gagne, Ann Robinson, Laura Schwartz, Rebekah Trost, Kelsey Kramer, Joscey Miner, Bailey Comegys, Ashley Shay, Erica Thacker, Emily Van Wiel, Riley Noble, Nathan Ferguson, Tommy Fischer R5: Ethan DeGroot, Heath Dannen, Jacob Orr, Brennen Woods, Steph Phillips, Michelle Hall, Taylor Anthony, Mollie Greenwood, Ellie Marckmann, Paige Cramer, Katie Marckmann, Elea Kaptain, Autumn Askew, Tyler Matthies, Nick Maurer, Seth Andrews R6: Konnor Gifford, Brandt Swallow, Alex Juergens, Justin Ewing, Elliot Suiter, Kayla Jansen, Abby Dockum, Sonya Gau, Maren Bettis, Taylor Holland, Bailey Ginkens, Natalie Vander Ploeg, Katherine Crowley, Ben Poss. Photo by John Jentsch.

Boys Cross Country

R1: Connor Mutch, David Lamison, Taylor Boysen, Deven Mutch, Connor Westlake, Jeremy Caracci, Gavin Mumm, Zachary Smith, Harrison Kruse, Brady Harper, Colton Marshall, Kyle Kane, Gabe Altier, Tyler Frankie, Max Culbert, Ben Tack R2: Brandon Thompson, Alec Kilstrom, Elliot Suiter, Kyle Natzke, Cole Balmer, Seth Andrews, Ethan Moran, Josh Hjelmaas, Daniel Stromgren, Ryan Decker, David Rice, Jacob Jansen, Chris Kline, Myles Glandorf, Tyson Wieland, James Beasley, Kyle Gansemer, Nate Grimes, Ben Poss R3: Nikash Pradhan, John Norris, Tyler Fenton, Seth Tack, Jordan Boge, Andrew Boge, Jacob Orr, Drew Hershey, Sam Altier, Leon Sun, Cole Lafollette, Alex Nichol, Brian Friestad, Nick Collison, Shane Wiley, Konnor Gifford, Tyler Davis R4: Matt Jaschen, Jack Catus, Ryan Tigges, Matt Tanner, Collin Laughlin, Nick Brocka, Ben Renner, Connor Wunsch, Josh Boeschen, Tim Zuo, Bryon Christenson, Dakota Jackson, Josh Borwick, Adam Johanson, Enzo Trombino, Danny Corbin, Sammy Meyer, Isaac Tegeler, Pat Mattingly.
Photo by Deena Byrd.

GROUPSHOTS

Junior/Senior Board

R1: Katrina Fey, Shannon Beierschmitt, Jiahui Huang, Katie Giles, Courtney Norelius, Katie Landy, Amy Nihart R2: Karly Palmer, Joscey Miner, Swathi Somisetty, Reid Lefler, Breanna Williams, Sindhu Gollapudi, Tyler Fenton R3: Craig O'Keefe, Jeff Carley, Kelsi Larsen, Abby Dockum, Paige Vaden, Meghan Jansen, Victoria Trost.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Math Club

R1: Austin Busch, Josh Boeschen, Loyal Ulm, Elizabeth Crowley, Julie Probst R2: Riley Deutsch, Ethan Niu, Jack Dolde, Levi Clark, Dennis Xu.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Knowledge Bowl

R1: Teddy Katz, Erin Selinger, Jiahui Huang, Breanna Williams, Karen Chen R2: Swathi Somisetty, Kevin Wu, Ethan Niu, Jack Dolde, Abby Dockum, Ruchi Shekar R3: Sai Abbaraju, Zach Lamberty, Austin Busch, Josh Boeschen, Riley Deutsch, Olivia Guns.
Photo by John Jentsch.

NCYL

R1: Jiahui Huang, Fatiha Iqbal, Karsen Kramer, Katie Giles, Courtney Norelius, Melia Black R2: Breanna Williams, Vivian Wu, Ivy Wu, Kelsi Larsen, Joscey Miner, Carly Crist R3: Jeff Carley, Victoria Trost, Laura Smalley, Will Krone, Erin Conlan.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Large Group Speech

R1: Simi Varma, Megan Gibbons, Jiahui Huang, Sarah Caporelli, Lindsay Soards, Breanna Williams R2: Monte Friestad, Naomi Debaene, Andrew Boge, Alise Williams, Jordan Boge, Nate Eggleston.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Newspaper

R1: Anne Rogers, Jeremy Caracci, Mallorie Goodale, Sarah Margolin, Monica Gagne, Ethan Marshall R2: Mollie Greenwood, Laura Scieszinski, Paige Cramer, Zoe Wilson, Courtney Mithelman, Sarah Ross, Niki Ferguson, Myles Glandorf, Austin Busch.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Pinterest

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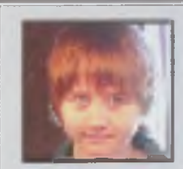
Pillow Case Art

27 likes 3 repins



Taylor Hall onto
Johnston Yearbook

Sophomore Taylor Hall made a craft from pintrest. The original craft shows you draw a design on sand paper and then iron it on to a pillow case. She used fabric markers to color her own design presnting a ocean on the sand paper and then ironed it on to her pillow case.

FIERY J SINCE Nineteen Hundred Twelve

Flames in front

"The flames look like they are pushing the J. It looks very intense."
-Bailey Robinson '15

Dragon Purple

"The new Dragon Purple is very 'Johnston', now we look different than Indianola and Waukee."
-Emily Larson '15

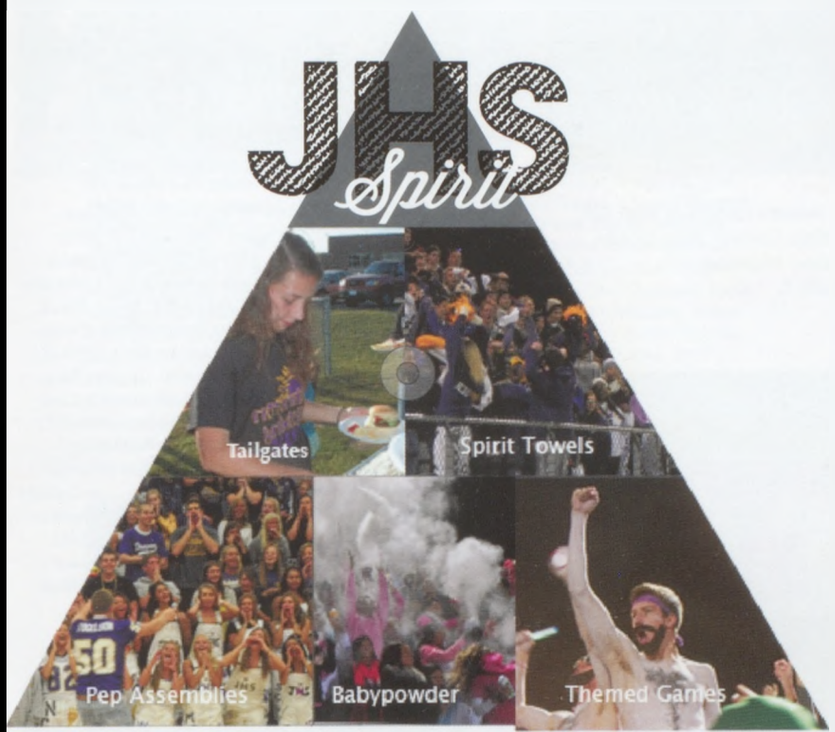
Dragon Gold

"I think that there are more important things to be worrying about than the the J colors, it's excessive."
-Katelyn Lunders '13

GROUPSHOTS

Girls Cross Country

R1: Kayla Sullivan, Lori Gentile, Katherine Selberg, Mattie Kip, Nicole Ackerman, Rachel DeCarlo, Ivy Wu, Margaret Standish, Bailey Eppard, Ally Perman, Andrea Renner R2: Sandra Kromminga, Anna Toot, Alyssa Wilcutt, Sara Ness, Abby Puk, Jordyn Kleve, Amy Keech, Jady Polson, Megan Kress, Sydney Maras, Katie Bevis, Odette Muziranenge, Hope Namahoro, Ronnoja Ayers R3: Sarah Kromminga, Ellen Bennett, Maddy Bradley, Julia Beswick, Emma Thayer, Shelby Costello, Anne Rogers, Georgia Carroll, Kenzie Foldes, Courtney Mithelmann, Kelsey Acheson, Kate Fielstad, Chris Siewert R4: Patrick Hennes, Haley Daughhetee, Bailey Pohlman, Amanda Jensen, Christina Rice, Erica Thacker, Natalie Coomes, Kelsey Caffrey, Ruchi Shekar, Taylor Kilstrom, Laura Schwartz.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.



Sophomore Football

R1: Ben Perman, Mark Johnson, Reid Sinnett, Grant Collison, Alec McCombs, Alex White, Zach Grenell, Nolan Wengert R2: Jack Bergstrom, Regen Siems, Tommy Zinselmeier, Connor Winjum, Troy Tigges, Devon Shorter, Logan Beguhn R3: Austen Knowlton, Alex Beltrame, Clifford Sharp, Tyler Doherty, Jon Dolan, Andy Purgalski, Jacob Mull, Kyle Davis R4: Dane Beery, Jared Seay, John May, Andrew Heuss, Brad Nielsen, Clayton Holcomb, Teddy Katz, Kendall Staley R5: Cooper Maahs, Nate Standish, Jonah Kragt, Brandon Ferin, Alec Kuehn, Kole Swesey, Rafael Gilmanov, Cameron Michel R6: Derek Flack, Steve Kaster, Brian Benson.
Photo by Deena Byrd.

Varsity Boys Golf

R1: Sam Buckley, Shane Burgess, Tommy Fischer, Ryan Rubin, Michael Hanstad, Jake Pineda, Jacob Dalbey, Marcus Milller, Austin Probst R2: Blake Singbush, Drew Grill, Jake Campbell, Blake Miller, Grant Smith, Joe Hawks, Michael Reiter, Sachin Gupta, Tanner Correy R3: Jordan Kleinschmidt, Korbin Sesker, Alex Burns, Jason Kane, Nathan Hibbs, Scott Kruse, Luke Davis, Sean Meyer.
Photo by Deena Byrd.

Photography Club

R1: Elsie Wunn, Hannah Loiler, Amber Hodapp, Kirpal Dhugga, Ethan Marshall R2: Delany Idleman, Clara Carlson, Kate Allender, Mitch Corbin, Jason Koenigsberg.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Spanish Club

R1: Allison Clark, Delany Idleman, Josh Dell, Evan Trainer R2: Erin Conlan, Ana Duarte, Lizzie Alonzo, Walker Williams.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Innovation

R1: Sarah Lewis, Katie Giles, Katlyn Meiners, Courtney Norelius, Brooke Stephens R2: Max Culbert, Elea Kaptain, Karsen Kramer, Brianna DeMoss, Emily Scott, Mark Johnson R3: Luke McDermott, Kyler Coburn, Reid Lefler, Melia Black, Margaret Standish, Andrew Schwaderer, Craig O'Keefe R4: Drew Cubit, Simmone Doswell, Ellie Marckmann, Dani Lorenz, Monica Gagne, Kameron DeMoss R5: Connor Ward, Michael Schwaderer, Samantha Long, Laura Smalley, Joscelyn Miner, Rory Coniconde, Krister Anderson R6: Jacob Gehrke, Allyse Shoeman, Sanna Rasmussen, Jenna Smith, Hailey Kromminga, Jon Caracci R7: Nick Maurer, Erik Rasmussen, Erica Thacker, Jacqueline Gurney, Laura Schwartz, Josh Dell, Jeff Carley R8: Alex Juergens, Joe Seda, Drew Grill, Jake Emblen, Mitch Corbin, Andrew Mills.
Photo by Pat Ward.

Varsity Girls Soccer

R1: Kenzie Erwine, Abby Gorsche, Ellie Walace, Lexi Willie, Jennifer Birmingham, Katrina Fey, Jady Polson, Anne Wallace R2: Lindsey Carley, Emily Scott, Aubrey Sesker, Rachel Roshek, Bailey Wilmes, Paige Elming, Payton Thompson, Susan Manning R3: Emily Hanson, Rachel Wanniger, Audrey Rieck, Kristen Stucker, Megan Faley, Emily Lehman, Jenna Smith, Shayna Stubbs.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Student Council

R1: Tori Pearson, Katrina Fey, Katelyn Lunders, Jeremy Caracci, Katie Marckmann, Joscey Miner, Reid Lefler, Jonathan Caracci R2: Marcus Miller, Jacqui Galang, Sam Perington, Logan Walkup, Melinda Paszkiewicz, Laura Scieszinski, Kate Fjelstad, Kelsey Acheson, Swathi Somisetty R3: Dalton Handel, Victoria Trost, Bailey Pohlman, Kate Minney, Senad Besic, Liera Bender, Zach Walker, EmmaGrace Walter, Callie Alvarez R4: Dylan Jones, Will Krone, Kim Hughes, Steph Wilkinson, Deepthi Akella, Craig O'Keefe, Reid Sinnett, Regen Siems, Logan Beguhn.

Synergy

R1: Shane Wiley, Brennen Woods, Amy Nihart, Carsen Shereck, Michaela Davis, Mikayla Seiler, Kelsey Kramer, Katie Landy, Kevin Luu R2: Jacob Orr, Jake Dalbey, Spencer Jenkins, Cheryl Wells, Autumn Askew, Meredith Toebben, Nikia Pope, Stephanie Graham, Emily Van Wiel, Brandon Thrane, Mathew Evans R3: Jacob Murray, Tommy Fischer, Elizabeth Schraeger, Maddie MacGregor, Abby Gorsche, Kaitlin Pranger, Andrea Schultz, Courtney Mithelman, Brandt Swallow R4: Nick Hogan, Tyler Matthies, Julia Diehl, Audrey Kaus, Jordyn Kleve, Tyler Davis, Walter Lagerblade R5: Elliot Suiter, Becca Stahr, Morgan Woods, Bailey Swift, Quinn Stigers, Ashleigh Edwards, Heath Dannen R6: Nathan Grimes, Maren Bettis, Taylor Holland, Rebekah Trost, Anna Rasmussen, Riley Peterson, Nathan Ferguson R7: Danny Corbin, Zach Walker, Abby Dockum, Ann Robinson, Sonya Gau, Riley Noble, Abby Puk, Seth Andrews, James Beasley.
Photo by Pat Ward.

Softball

R1: Dani Lorenz, Ellen Espeland, Stanzy Snyder, Bailey Wilmes, Bernie Willis, Emma Monthei, Nikia Pope R2: Shuda Jarboe, Lauren Thilges, Abby Wilmes, Katie Newbury, Sammie Hildreth, Sara Knee, Sydney Johnson R3: Addy Pender, Maren Bettis, Hannah Berger, Sam Strand, Rachel Walljasper, Haylee Towers
Photo by Deena Byrd.

Girls Tennis

R1: Payton Kintz, Kylie Poulson R2: Melia Black, Sabaritha Chander, Megan Bradley, Anna Lam R3: Eisha Nathwani, Sheyna Nathwani, EmmaGrace Walter, Karly Palmer, Liera Bender.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

GROUPSHOTS

Mixed Choir

R1: Benton Haggett, Jack Miller, Nathan Hibbs, Sergio Alaniz, Shane Burgess, James Beasley, Spencer Jenkins, Brigette Biley, Mikayla Foster, Chanel Terpstra, Makayla Cox, Marcy Chamberlin, Hannah Downey, Kyrena Kunze, Makayla Mawhinney R2: Cody Faught, Jacob Morrow, Michael Reiter, David Lamison, Walter Lagerblade, Mathew Evans, Josiah Mielke, Nick Hartley, Zach Hauser, Addison Bolles, Rylee Keith, Kayla Owens, Bailey Pohlman, Tori Calhoun, Katie Regan, Anna Solberg R3: Alec Ginsberg, Danny Corbin, Kyle Chapman, Buop Reat, Kevin Luu, Isaac Ochoa, Nicholas Collison, Zach Walker, Carlyn Waetke, Emily Stevens, Katy Olsen, Alize Olson, Martha Mulu, Emma Thayer, Kate Minney, Sam Thielen, Clare Baker R4: Josh Fritz, Nicholas Hogan, Phil Hauser, Kendall Staley, Jordan Kleinschmidt, Noah Zenor, Devon Wood, Chloe Keeney, Hadassah Smith, Paige Grave, Elizabeth Leffler, Brianna Erickson, Mikayla Davis, Erna Jaskic, Katarina Moore, Hannah Loiler, Thea Briggs.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Varsity Football

R1: Alex McCune, Marcus Devens, Jaryd Lawrence, Matt Guyer, Conner Jacobsen, Michael Kinning, Dylan Johnson, Spencer Clock, Will Krone, Craig Kimble R2: Cully Maahs, Thomas Peter, Ben Garlock, Kyle Timmerman, Trevor McCauley, Brock Hoffmann, Will Hyde, Andy Bevis, Troy Barnes R3: Miles Fogelson, Kyle Chapman, Hezekiah Applegate, Pete Lashier, Nick Whittaker, Caleb Bakken, Zach Brandt, Grant Riessen, Jasmin Muratovic, Tyler Cook R4: Travis Theisen, Derek Van Blarcom, Jonathan Caracci, Brandon Sexton, Luke McDermott, Rory Coniconde, Jack Kaputska, Robert Doan, Chandler Bakken R5: Kris Queck, Sam Schade, Will Bjorholm, Joe Sprunger, Jordan Weddington, Devin Lile, Anthony Kpedeh, Andrew Mills, Brandon Thrane, Ryan Harlow R6: Tate Williams, Alex Rice, Marcus Montgomery, Zeyad Alghool, Wesley Witt, Nathan Christensen, Fez Bui, Chase Elliot, Elijah Kragt, Matt Benson R7: Mike Mertz, Tony Kruse, Brian Lutter, Rod Wiebers, Brian Woodley, Zac Christensen, Mike McCune, Marc Beltrame, Eric Shafer R8: Casey Coughlon, Emily Moe, Kayla Dings, Bailey Pierotti, Bonnie Le Page, Emily Stoen.
Photo by Deena Byrd.

Mock Trial

R1: Lydia Sinclair, Monica Gagne, Sarah Margolin, Katie Landy, Simi Varma, Sanjay Koduvalli, Sarah Lewis, Courtney Norelius, Zea Zhu, Jiahui Huang, Amy Nihart, Megan Gibbons R2: Paige Vaden, Olivia Whitlow, Melinda Paszkiewicz, John Koopal, Jack Dolde, Aditi Dinakar, Natalie Vander Ploeg, Hannah Wiles, Breanna Williams, Meredith Toebben, Karen Chen, Pratyusha Bujimalla, Samantha Long R3: Stanzy Snyder, Josh Hjelmaas, Abby Dockum, Teddy Katz, Swathi Somisetty, Kara Garside, Carly Crist, Andrew Boge, Fatiha Iqbal, Shianne Thomas, Marcus Miller, Troy Ikeda, Hannah Berger, Laura Scieszinski, Jonathan Caracci, Emily Hanson, Connor Westlake, Jeremy Caracci, Carmen Vajgrt, Ellie Wallace, Bailey Pierotti, Jeff Carley, Olivia Guns, Jordan Boge, Kevin Wu, Tyler Fenton, Riley Deutsch, Andrew Mills.

Jazz Syndicate

R1: Jacob Orr, Karen Chen, Shane Burgess, Joe Seda, Austin Busch, Amelia Hammond R2: Samantha Long, Leanna McAllister, Tim Zuo, Sam Altier, Shana Hudson R3: Julia Ratekin, Elliot Suiter, Naomi Debaene, Blake Wilson R4: Josh Boeschen, Nick Gearhart, Andrew Schwaderer, Alexander Ritchie.
Photo by John Jentsch.

JV A Boys Soccer

R1: Russ Fortune, Tristan Coaldrake, Seth Daughetee, Sam Zernhelt, Julian Neely, Marcus Miller, Jacob Rietz, Nick Wyman, Arnes Elkaz R2: Collin Urquhart, Andrew Schultz, Mike Siebert, Jacob Pineda, Senad Besic, Jordan Thede, Dylan Johnson, Tommy Zinselmeier, Ben Dygert R3: Nolan Wengert, Jack Miller, Nick Lee, Jon Dolan, Alec Ginsberg, Admir Delahmet, Ethan Babcock, Ryan Ingebrand, Tyler Smaha.

SAIL

R1: Marcus Miller, Shelby Fechner, Reid Lefler, Matthew Hanstad, Timmy Morrissey, Trevor McCauley, Kelsi Larsen, Karsen Kramer, Keely Larkin R2: Rachel Godwin, Kaari Devens, Callie Alvarez, Callie Coulter, Hayden Woods, Krister Anderson, Spencer Thomas, Rachel Anderson, Brennen Woods, Addy Evans.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Women's Choir

R1: Vasundhara Srivastava, Marissa Ward, Morgan Woods, Riley Corell, Jordyn Kleve, Ashleigh Edwards, Courtney Mithelman, Jennifer Curiel R2: Emma Kielty, Libby Bengston, Allison Martin, Anna Rasmussen, Barbie Sullivan, Michaela Davis, Carsen Shereck, Eisha Nathwani, Leigha Christenson R3: Andrea Schultz, Haley Daughhetee, Becca Stahr, Shayla Warrick, Julia Diehl, Maddie McGregor, Kaitlin Pranger, Abby Gorsche, Megan Buckallew, Nikia Pope, Abby Puk R4: Sam Wilkinson, Riley Petersen, Stephanie Graham, Morgan Jensen, Taylor Fontanini, Jenny Nelson, Clara Carlson, Raven Wells, Cheryl Wells, Bailey Swift, Quinn Stigers.

Wind Symphony

R1: Austin Busch, Riley Deutsch, Bailey Pohlman, Joe Seda, Jon Caracci, AJ Naanep, Lauren Quinn R2: Karen Chen, Sam Altier, Erin Selinger, Erica Thacker, Vivian Wu, Rachil Li R3: Blake Wilson, Gabe Nowak, Katie Breeden, Naomi Debaene, Katie Giles, Elizabeth Schraeger, Abby Dockum, Kevin Wu, Amy Nihart, Caity Miller, Lauren Ulm, Lauren Stephens, Alysa Cheng, Amelia Hammond R4: Andrew Boge, Kayla Linscheid, Emma Dickinson, Marcus Miller, Jeff Carley, Brooke Barret, Leanna McAllister, Julia Ratekin, Shana Hudson, Jordan Boge, Claire Sevenich R5: Elliot Suiter, Zach Lamberty, John Koopal, Ethan Babcock, Laura Smalley, Ryan Tigges, Shane Burgess, Samantha Long, Brian Brass, Tim Zuo, Cameron Redshaw, Andrew Schwaderer, Alexander Ritchie, Josh Boeschen, Nick Gearhart.
Photo by John Jentsch.

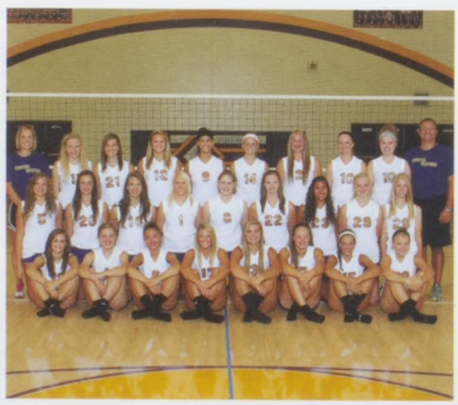
TSA

R1: Brianna Erickson, Kate Allender, Elliot Suiter, Senad Besic, Sanjay Koduvalli, Tyler Fenton, Sydney Luu R2: Jayden Bridgeman, Alex Casten, Monte Friestad, Sam Thomas, Joe Sprunger, Ross Kromminga, Dennis Xu R3: Nick Barker, Cameron Redshaw, Brandon Gabbert, Matt Rahm, Heath Dannen, Brice Tegeler, Delany Idleman R4: Chris McGinnis, Phil Hauser, Brandon Ferin, Adam Richman, Nate Eggleston, Nick Ward, Hannah Van Zee.

JV Volleyball

R1: Brandy Hayen, Riley Noble, Sam Wilkinson, Kennedy Papian, Rebecca Trost, Thea Briggs, Kelli Bormann R2: Hedi Price, Jessica Larson, Gabby Ledesma, Emily Larson, Rachel Atkinson, Nikia Pope, Mallory Kane.
Photo by Deena Byrd.

Varsity Volleyball



R1: Bailee Nelson, Melinda Paskiewicz, Kayla Sullivan, Karsen Kramer, Rachel Anderson, Rachel Walljasper, Abby Hallman, Dani Lorenz R2: Rachel Godwin, EmmaGrace Walter, Kaari Devens, Sanna Rasmussen, Taylor Joens, Kenzie Hewitt, Callie Alvarez, Hayley Dotseth, Kristin Stucker R3: Lacey Fulton, Ellie Scott, Kayla Smith, Madeline Miller, Paige Boyer, Sloane Vander Zwaag, Keely Larkin, Laura Ausenhus, Emily Hanson, Rick Brooks.

Boys Swimming

R1: Cody Carlson, Hayden Woods, Dylan Johnson, Dalton Handel, Tyler Cracraft, Ethan DeGroot R2: Michael Schwaderer, Carson Hemphill, Erik Rasmussen, Sam Perington, Teig Loge, Jarid Ingebrand R3: Jordan Nicolet, Carter Mehls, Alex Clark, Justin Winnett, Andrew Schwaderer, Reed Molander R4: Nathan Grimes, Josh Hjelmaas, John Koopal, Joe Seda, Tyson Wieland, Oryn Weede R5: Luke Schmitt, Quinn LaFrentz, Michael Eppink, Joe Jeffries, Grant McDowell R6: Nick Best, Seth Scheffer, Ashton Cracraft, Lee Lounsbery, Max Culbert, Nick Collison R7: Zachary Smith, Connor White, Bogdon Pankrukhin, Dawson Kerr, Jared DeGroot R8: Gerrison Parker, James Arnold, David Korkow, Cody Church, Taylor Donner, Stephan Fiolic R9: Connor Ward, Brandt Swallow, Shane Wiley, Ben Kramer.
Photo by Pat Ward.

Girls Swimming

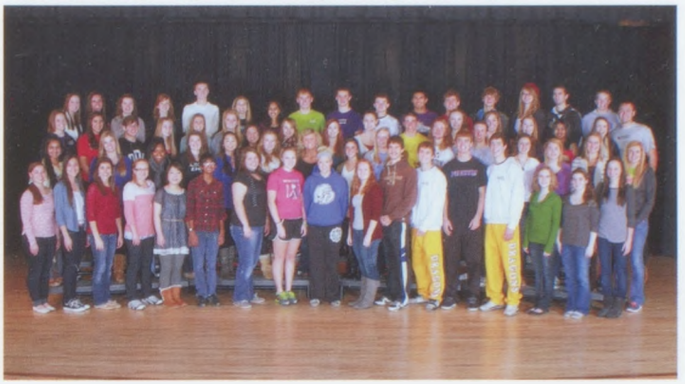
R1: Amre Gaskins, Cecilia Shutt, Erin Selinger, Rachel Carlson, Victoria Trost, Emily Lammers, Ari Dalamaggas, Sara Beeler, Caylee Shank, Emily Rothfus R2: Kate Erwin, Simrita Varma, Mallorie Goodale, Cheyenne Church, Nicole Davis, Lindsay Hemphill, Selena Young, Rachel Penningroth, Courtney Kemp, Emily Hammer R3: Shayla Warrick, Abby Foutch, Lauren Stenger, Anna Ferris, Shana Hudson, Olivia Patterson, Mollie Greenwood, Kayla Cary, Carmen Vajgrt, Morgan Woods R4: Emma VanZante, Emily Moore, Allison Piper, Madeline Vajgrt, Katie Maxcy, Kennedy Kramer, Kasey Harms, Lizzy Orr, Rae Gathercole, Brittany Martin R5: Claire Farrell, Peyton Morfeld, Niki Ferguson, Mallorie Myers, Brenna Yeutsy, Natalie Lammers, Katie Vryhoff, Claire Timmerman, Kelly Cherrier.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

GROUPSHOTS

Boys Track

R1: Ben Garlock, Tyson Wieland, Sam Altier, Ryan Tigges, Cullen Maahs, Kyle Timmerman, Bryon Christenson, Thomas Peter, Brandon Thrane, Shane Wiley, Jared Seay, Elijah Kragt, Brandon Thompson R2: Kyle Chapman, Logan Beguhn, Braden Cooper, Drew Hershey, Broderick Stephenson, Jack Catus, Connor Wunsch, Ben Renner, Mark Johnson, Luke Davis, Grant Collison, John May, Anthony Piagentini, Marcus Coleman, Max Culbert, Andrew Boge R3: Brandon Sexton, Jordan Weddington, Troy Tigges, Remy Coniconde, Connor Staten, Blake Singbush, Jordan Kleinschmitt, Connor White, Alexander Beltrame, Jack Bergstrom, Collin Laughlin, Alec Kilstrom, Marcus Montgomery, Andrew Heuss, Anthony Kpedeh, Austen Knowlton R4: Josh Hjelmaas, Jordan Boge, Zachary Smith, Nick Flodin, Daniel Stromgren, Chris Kline, David Lamison, Danny Corbin, Seth Tack, Konnor Gifford, Andrew Mills, Logan Clabaugh, Nate Standish, Tate Williams, Ethan Pipper, Hezekiah Applegate R5: Matt Larson, Dallin Russell, Eric Siedenburg, Gabe Altier, Kyle Kane, Zane Johnson, Eric Friesth, Nick Brocka, Tyler Davis, Matt Tanner, Nikash Pradhan, Myles Glandorf, Kole Swesey, Jonah Kragt, Erik Salmon R6: Nick Stitzell, Adam Johanson, Jeremy Caracci, Riley Tuon, Noah Richards, Sam Linder, Tyler Fenton, Elliot Suiter, Cole LaFollette, Josh Borwick, David Rice, Ryan Decker, Rafael Gilmanov, Cooper Maahs R7: Jon Caracci, Nick Best, Brian Friestad, Sammy Meyer, Nathan Grimes, Jordan Nicolet, Connor Mutch, Colton Marshall, Connor Westlake, Ethan Moran, Jacob Jansen, Isaac Tegeler R8: Patrick Honocomp, Michael Dana, Patrick Mattingly, George Sypnewski, Matt Jaschen.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

NHS



R1: Lauren Stephens, Cynthia Tice, Katie Giles, Amber Hodapp, Jiahui Huang, Sanjay Koduvalli, Kim Hughes, Emily Stoen, Bonnie Le Page, Courtney Norelius, Matthew Hanstad, Dylan Johnson, Trevor McCauley, Hayden Woods, Amy Nihart, Katie Landy, Nicole Ackerman R2: Fatiha Iqbal, Kelsey Acheson, Ronnoja Ayers, Elizabeth Schraeger, Vivian Wu, Megan Albers, Joscey Miner, Andrea Renner, Brenna Robinson, Myles Anderson, Will Krone, Naomi Dabaene, Lydia Sinclair, Kelsi Larsen, Steph Wilkinson R3: Lauren Stenger, Callie Alvarez, Jonathan Caracci, Natalie Vander Ploeg, Kate Fjelstad, Laura Schwartz, Ivy Wu, Shianne Thomas, Breanna Williams, Sydney Rissler, Sam Altier, Abby Dockum, Samantha Long, Hailey Kromminga, Sindhu Gollapudi, Isabella Engblom, Dylan Jones R4: Erin Yocum, Allyson Veatch, Amelia Hammond, Laura Smalley, David Rice, Carly Crist, Aditi Dinakar, Riley Deutsch, Josh Hjelmaas, Andrew Schwaderer, Ryan Tigges, Dylan Balmer, Joe Dailey, Erin Conlan, Michael Kinning, Logan Walkup.
Photo by John Jentsch.

Varsity Boys Soccer

R1: Krister Anderson, Spencer Moser, Matthew Hanstad, Dalton Handel, Ricky Rugabisha, Spencer Clock, Ryan Harlow, Sam Perington, Myles Anderson, A.J. Keech, Hayden Woods R2: Elvir Ibisevis, Jacob Nelson, Joe Fairchild, Parker Gesiriech, Sam Graving, Calvin Kimrey, Ferid Hodzic, Luke Johnson, Darius Doswell, Pete Lashier R3: Heath Weeks, Ben Davis, Jasmin Muratovic, Austin Kerr, Dustin Mead.

Girls Track

R1: Emily Stoen, Claire Sevenich, Marissa Hagerla, Carly Crist, Madison Rice, Andrea Renner, Isabella Engblom, Elle Scott, Kim Hughes, Fredrika Andreasson R2: Kaari Devens, Madeline Miller, Taylor Joens, Bailey Pierotti, Kenzie Foldes, Sarah Birkett, Ronnoja Ayers, Tiffany McGregor, Lizzie Alonzo, Alise Williams R3: Shana Hudson, Abby Puk, Jordyn Kleve, Mikayla Foster, Brigette Biley, Kate Minney, Maddie MacGregor, Nikia Pope, Victoria Wells R4: Sandra Kromminga, Kelsey Caffrey, Natalie Coomes, Nejra Cikotic, Nicky Spear, Hannah Sieren, Rebekah Trost, Megan Buckallew, Emma Thayer R5: Jordan Mielke, Sydney Boyle, Anne Rogers, Georgia Carroll, Haley Daughhetee, Ruchi Shekar, Stephanie Graham, Ellen Bennett, Sarah Kromminga R6: Megan Kress, Ally Lorber, Alex Mahanna, Bailey Knopf, Julia Beswick, Anna Toot, Baridillo Boona, Sara Pigman, Kristina Rice, Sara Ness R7: Abby Rogers, Olivia Goodale, Kiersten Cartwright, Shayna Stubbs, Morgan Jones, Megan Crotts, Brooke Ginsberg, Anna Larson, Meghan Gumina R8: Brittany Martin, Steve Kaster, Chris Siewert, Jodi Buchan, Dave Beason, Maddie Bradley.
Photo by Phyllis Hornbrook.

Boys Tennis

R1: Tyler Losen, Andrew McKeighan, Connor White, Alec Kuehn, A.J. Naanep, Justin Atterberg, Charlie Goodwin, Corbin Buttrey R2: Scott Kruse, Vaibhav Srikaran, Kevin Wu, Derek Fenton, Jack Krone, Alexander Darnielle, Chris Timmerman R3: Robert Doan, Joe Sprunger, Joe Lorber, Nick Saluri, Brian Brass, Bernardo Duarte, John Mullen R4: Teddy Katz, Grant Shoeman, Austin Probst, James McGowan, Nick Hogan, Nick Young, Chase Langos R5: Michael Reiter, Sam Hazlewood, Jacob Valentine, Erik Francois, David Korkow, Morgan Stutzman, Joel Heil.

Continue On

Life always goes on, with or without you. The theme of continuum ended up being more than just a yearbook theme to me this year. On February 7 this year, a lot changed for me. I had a major surgery on my liver to get a tumor removed. It was a low risk surgery until one of my major arteries got severed and I had fatal bleeding. 24 units of blood were pumped into me but I wouldn't stop bleeding. My heart stopped and for nearly a minute I was dead. When I woke up I had no idea what had happened, except I knew I had several extra tubes in me along with a extra incision in my chest. I spent three days in the ICU and another week in the hospital. Three weeks after my death the doctor told me what happened. The thing was, I had no idea in the previous three weeks anything had gone wrong so I was just pushing myself to get better as fast as I could. Overall, my surgeon who cut the artery told me not to dwell on what happened. So I took his advice because life goes on.

So life still goes on. Since my surgery I've gotten a lot better, physically and emotionally. I've learned to not worry about the little things as much. People spend too much time only seeing what goes wrong. Things can go right and things can go wrong, but still, life always goes on for better or worse. I've started trying to do more spontaneous things, because even if it goes wrong life still goes on. I tried a new haircut, hung out with new people, joined a Zumba dance class, and I hope to keep doing new things. I started focusing more on being happy. I got rid of the major stress factors in my life. People need to realize life can be a lot shorter then you think. So you might as well live it positive, optimistic, and happy. And no matter what bad things happen, life goes on.

On the way to the National Journalism Convention in San Antonio, TX, the sun starts to rise as a new day begins. *photo by Kelsey Acheson*

Awards

NSPA
7th Place; Best of Show

NSPA
All-American Rating

CSPA
Gold Medalist Rating

NATIONAL JOURNALISM CONVENTION
Kelsey Acheson; Superior Rating; Copy and Captions

IHSPA AWARDS
Bailey Pierotti; 2nd Place; Academics Writing
Bonnie Le Page; 2nd Place; Feature Presentation
Kelsey Acheson; Honorable Mention; Feature Writing
Madison Boes; Honorable Mention; Feature Writing
Swathi Somisetty; 1st Place; Organization/Performance Writing
Clara Carlson; 2nd Place; Organization/Performance Writing

Staff

Colophon

Author James Grippando once wrote "We can either laugh in the face of death or die trying not to." We decided to laugh.

As time started to catch up with us, people were faced with the daunting thoughts of the past, present and future. The 66th edition of The Dragon became a time machine to take you back and forth in time. The idea *Continuum* stemmed from the National Yearbook Convention in Minneapolis in 2011.

To break through the negativity of death, we became the class clowns. Full color was the only way to break through the gloom. We stuck with a size nine book to completely cover the journey through the year. Our cover was lithograph. Inside, to hold all the history, we used glossy 100-pound paper over our 224 pages. The cost of each book was $54, or $59 with a shiny nameplate. To lower the cost and give us the sweet cover we have now, our staff pulled together and made history. We raised over $10,000 in ad sales from local businesses, the largest amount ever. These are represented on the large signs in our gym, made by Kness Signs, and hung as if by magic, by custodians Dan Golbuff and Jay Nikolish.

A normal day in the lab involved us rocking out to music, dancing during lunch, gossip, and our large compilation of snacks. Sorry Tom Porter! All of this took place in our second home, the J-Lab. Our beloved couch, however, did go into retirement and was replaced with brown floral sibling provided by our very own Clara Carlson. When history needed to be recorded we had 14 of our lovely 20" Mac OS X computers. To create the memories we used our two beloved Nikon D70s, our Nikon D90, and our brand new baby the Nikon D7000 with our wonderful lenses. All that writing stuff was wonderfully checked by Koth, our amazing super genius grammar checker. She volunteered her time to look over our work and perfect it.

Time couldn't be captured without important people, our Herff Jones representative Marc Havnen, Herff Jones guru Ann Akers, and Ann Rome (one day we called four times.) They helped us with all our bizarre requests and encouraged us to roll with our crazy ideas and random statements.

Last but not least, history isn't complete without Shipp. We could never have achieved this book without the constant questions and insight of our advisor (aided by Dr. Kinder). We have driven her up the wall but we deeply appreciated the time she spent with us. Shipp made an impact on our lives.

We tried to laugh in the face of doom and make everyone overcome the stigma of death and enjoy the life they have lived and will live in the future, or to appreciate the *Continuum*.